

The Diaries of Hiram Corson, M.D.
(1804 – 1896)

Transcribed, edited and annotated

By

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Volume III

January 1, 1890 - January 31, 1896

Introduction

In transcribing, editing was intentionally limited and entries are printed as written by Dr. Corson. Editor's clarifications, where needed, are in brackets. As indicated in the introduction of Volume I, Dr. Corson's diaries give many insights into the man, the society and times in which he lived, the Civil War, and most especially into medical education and the medical profession of the nineteenth century. He also applied the same energy to improving public education in Pennsylvania.

The diaries provide some interesting particulars about slavery and anti-slavery movements of southeastern Pennsylvania.

Of his many contributions, his leadership in the struggle for the education of women physicians and their recognition as equals within the medical profession has earned Hiram Corson a prominent and honorable place in the annals of medicine. Neither political nor social pressures deterred him from standing up against injustice. For this he was widely respected. Today's doctors serving on various committees and boards would do well to follow Dr. Hiram Corson's standards.

Dr. Corson's detailed description of his fading health and strength and how he felt and dealt with the approaching end of his life further define this remarkable nineteenth century physician. His comments and observations relating to religious and philosophical matters are interesting and educational.

1890

January 1: Wednesday.

Our woman was to come home at 5:10 from Broad St. Station on Dec. 31st. So as Carrie Cresson, who had come to stay with us till her return, got a chill on that morning I took her home after dinner. Then at 2:30 went for Frannie Day, brot her from Sp. Mill, and at 5:30 was back at Sp. Mill for the woman. She did not come. So I came home & took supper and went back at seven. Saw three trains come, then returned without her. So I rode about 16 miles that afternoon. Today took Frannie down to Sp. Mill at 9 A.M. [and] brot the woman back. Then went to Consho. after dinner, got some money, did some business, got home at 3 P.M.; then went four and a half miles to see Hannah Stout & bled her. Got home after dark began to thicken. So rode about 16 or 17 miles since 9 o'clock today.

Wrote letters of wishes for a happy New Year to Dr. Traill Green, Prof.; Dr. Henry H. Smith, E. Prof.; Dr. Alfred Stillé, E. Prof.

January 2: Thursday.

Slept well last night. I forgot to say that little Charley's mother with a sorrowful heart left the little fellow in the college. Poor little boy, his heart almost broke when she had to leave without him.

Aunt Harriet Foulke came yesterday. Mary [is] delighted. Daughter Susan Lukens not well yesterday. I got quite uneasy about her in the night. So went early this morning to find her better. Went to Norristown this P.M. to get int[erest] on Kansas Bonds, \$43.75.

January 5: Sunday.

Warm, rainy. Read & wrote till 10 A.M. Then Jawood Lukens & Mary Carter Corson came up. Susan [is] better than at last writing but did not venture along.

After dinner went to see two men with "La Grippe," whom I also saw yesterday. Then [went to] Mrs. Henry Slaughter, whom I have attended off & on for more than fifty years, and so could not refuse to go.

Since coming home, have read a good deal in the North American Review.

January 8: Wednesday.

La Grippe, at its height all over Europe & United States. We had a medical meeting of our County Society today, the annual meeting to Elect Officers. All over the County the Grippe is so prevalent that there were few physicians present from the County, in all only about 20. We elected Dr. Alice Bennett President, the first woman ever president of a Medical Society in which men predominated, or any Society connected with the State Society. The Society was to have a Banquet, in other words an annual dinner. The dinner was to take place at 4 P.M., and I was by the Committee's arrangement, to respond to a toast. As the evenings are now dark, and I did not wish to stay, I came home as soon as the meeting adjourned. We have now (I think) seven female members.

I have three "La Grippe" patients, indeed 4.

January 9: Thursday.

Up early. Went to P.O. at 9, to Consho. [Conshohocken] afterwards. [Had] palp. as I went and till 2 P.M. Immediately after it went off, went to Norristown on business. [Was] home by 5 P.M. [Had] palp. [palpitation] while writing after supper. [It] cont'd till 11 P.M. [Had] many letters today.

January 12: Sunday.

Lillie Bacon & her lover came here after dinner and staid an hour or two. In the forenoon, I took Frannie Yocom with me to Hicksite Meeting. At noon Charley Foulke and Harriet's grandson came from Norristown and took dinner with us, & just after dinner, my nephew John J. Corson & son came and spent an hour. I have read a good deal.

January 13: Monday.

The unusual winter 1889-90. Thermometer at sunrise 62° F.; was so all night, all yesterday about 55°.

January 14: Tuesday.

Temp. today, fifty at sunrise, 68 at 2 P.M. (For two weeks has been steadily above 40°, save one night when there was ice). At 8 P.M. [temp.] had fallen to 34 and

gave promise of a colder night, but about 7 P.M. the sky was overcast with clouds and the cold air was moderated.

January 15: Wednesday

Rainy morning. I went to Phila., leaving Sp. Mill at 8:13. Met Robert R. Corson at 9th & Green to go to Langhorn [Langhorne] to buy 13 acres of land on speculation, but it rained so hard when we met that we deferred it. Going down I was taken with palp. at Manayunk, but continued on, and at 9:30 while waiting at 9th & Green Station for Robert, it passed away. I then took the cars to James Yocom's, found daughter Bertha had gone up to see me, so went back to the station & took cars for Conshohocken. Going up the street to Jaywood Lukens, Dr. D. R. Beaver jumped out of his carriage, told me to get in & sent his man with me up to Jay's home. He sent me home, where I arrived at one o'clock. Slept scarcely at all last night.

January 16: Thursday.

Slept well. Took Harriet Foulke to the 8:00 train for Phila. While waiting for the train at Sp. Mill, got palp. [which] lasted me four hours.

January 18: Saturday.

Nothing specially different from ordinary days, save that I received a letter from Mr. Tinsley, Editor of the Staunton Intelligencer, telling me,

"Dear Dr. Corson. We have won the fight. Thanks for your valuable assistance. I send you a paper with the proceedings of the Board electing Miss C. L. Haynes, M.D. of Palmer, Mass.

Very Sincerely Yours,
H. C. Tinsley."

Mr. Tinsley is a Trustee, and by request I sent to him & Trustee Tudd my pamphlets. Hence the letter and the newspaper. I pin or paste the clipping here.

January 23: Thursday.

I started at 8 A.M. to go to Phila. Took the cars at Sp. Mill at 8:35. Soon after getting in the cars, got palp. At 9:45 left 9th & Green with Robert R. Corson for Langhorn [sic] on Bound Brook R. Road, 23 miles from Phila. Took a cab and went up to the old Attleboro, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile; came back $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile to look at 8 acres of land to buy on speculation. [Had] palp. all the time. [It] began snowing before we left the city. Came back to Langhorn Station at eleven. Had to wait till 12 for train. Got to Phila. at one P.M. Took train for home at 1:30 P.M. Palp. still on me, feeling badly. Got to Spring Mill at 2:05 P.M. In $\frac{1}{4}$ hour palp. left me. At 3 P.M., [the] man came for me, as arranged by me. [Arrived] home 3:20 P.M., letter and papers awaiting me.

January 26: Sunday.

Awakened this morning with a pain in my right breast, near the sternum. Took $\frac{1}{8}$ gr. of morph sulph. [which] relieved it. Was called to see Miss Sallie Huston. Came home and wrote letters, six very long ones, to as many doctors in relation to my reforms. Got a favorable response from Dr. John T Carpenter, M.D. of Pottsville yesterday.

Three weeks ago two Trustees of a hospital for insane at Staunton, Va., appealed to Dr. Bennett and myself for information in relation to the success of women doctors as physicians for the insane. We sent all the papers, my pamphlets & other things and each sent a long letter. They were all read before the Board and a woman physician [was] elected. This is a grand break in the old plan in Virginia. The reforms will go on now.

January 28: Tuesday.

The Thermometer was up to 53° yesterday. It seemed like advanced Spring. The 1 ½ inch of ice disappeared. Today was cooler, just about 32°. I have been very busy, writing to correspondents till 10 A.M. in relation to the reforms for the care of the insane, which I am urging. Then visited two patients. After dinner went to see Hon. Alan Wood to get him to donate \$2500 for an expedition to the Bahama Islands, for examination of cases, from the bones of the Indians who lived there at the time Columbus discovered the Island. Dr. Dolley, my nephew, will go there in May, at the head of a few scientific men and a host of laborers for exploration. Mr. Wood concluded that he had spent much money last year in the erection of the Episcopal Church, that he would not donate any thing this year. Had a pleasant interview for an hour & a half, and came away without the promise of any money.

February 2: Sunday.

9 P.M. Weather [is] warm & pleasant. Therm. above 40° day & night until last evening. This morning a light snow covers the ground. Therm. 29° F. Has drizzled lightly all day. Have had palp. every two or three days, but only once to last more than a few minutes. Have been save [for palp.] very well; have attended a few families with the Gripp. Have not one to attend now. [Am] glad.

Had many interesting letters from Trustees of Hospitals, officers of County Med. Societies & others during the past week, and wrote many letters.

February 4: Tuesday.

Got several letters. One from my niece Dr. Sarah Dolley, mother of Prof. Charles Dolley, in which was enclosed a letter from Brother Alan W. Corson (who died a few years since in his 95th year), written by him to Sister Mary about 80 years ago, about or soon after the death of my mother Dec. 17, 1810. It is a letter in which he exhorts her, or rather for both of them that they secure a place in Heaven. He says that just before my mother's death, she called us to her bed-side and spoke to us as follows:

"Prepare for a death-bed all of you. How have I suffered; but the Lord will have mercy on all those who ask mercy of Him and be prepared."

Such were her words Alan says. He then adds of his own, "These were the words of a beloved mother upon the bed of death, a bed on which we see things differently from what we do in the possession of health, ease and plenty. It is an hour in which virtue alone is amiable. It is then, the thousands of gold which attract the world are of little value, except as they furnish the means of relieving misery."

"An instance perhaps occurred on the night our mother died which you have never heard. She conceived that there was a person poor at the door; she repeatedly ordered Mary Rex and me to bring them in, give them something to eat, to warm them and relieve all their wants." Such were her words.

There is a great deal more of Alan's letter to Sister Mary, all of a religious nature not necessary to copy now, even if I had room. Times have changed. All of our family have continued in the plain, sensible belief and life of Friends with no belief in a burning Hell, or a Heaven with sheets of gold. My creed is, who does the best his circumstances allow does well, acts nobly: Angels can [do] no more.

Hiram Corson, Feb.4, 1890, 4 P.M.

February 20: Thursday.

It is now 16 days since my other diary was finished. Nothing very special has since occurred here with us, save Joel Lare [Lair] and wife were suffocated at night in bed by the gas from coal fire and were wholly unconscious in the morning, but in a few hours recovered.

Two weeks ago Dr. Sumner Dolley rec'd a telegram from Berlin in Germany, from his wife that their daughter Carlotti, 5 years old, was ill with Brain Fever. His mother, Mrs. Dr. Sarah Read Adamson Dolley, at once dropped her business and in two days was on board a steamer for Berlin.

Two days ago, I loaned Dr. Sumner Dolley, her son, \$500 at 5 per cent for three years, to send to his wife.

Last Sunday, the wife of Joseph Adamson, daughter of Dr. Gleason of Phila. was buried in Phila., though she died in Denver where they had been living for some months. She was brought on by her husband, who brought along their child nine months old.

February 22: Saturday.

Last night I went to bed as well as ever I was. At 11 ½ o'clock I awoke & on moving my foot, left one, felt a pain on the top of it, just where the large vein crosses towards the ankle. I felt the vein full and tight and very tender to the touch, but as the pain was trifling, I did not mind it. But soon, in a few minutes, it increased till it became intolerable, and I called Mary to have a warm water to put my feet into. I soaked them about 20 minutes, bandaged the sore one with red flannel, long bandage, took some morph. and with some difficulty and pain got into bed. Then the whole foot from the toes to the ankle, but not in either of these was affected, so that I suffered fearfully. All night I was unable to use my foot, and but for the morph. which I took several times, I could not have had a moments rest. I slept none. Ate breakfast in bed this morning, Feb. 22.

About eleven o'clock today, I began to feel easier, sat up in bed and read my letters. Came down stairs at 4 P.M.. Am still down and can now walk about tolerably well. Strange attack.

February 23: Sunday.

9 P.M. Have been writing for hours today to Med. Society Presidents or Secretaries, asking them to present my pamphlets on the subject of taking the superintendents of our Hospitals for the insane from all work but medical duties, and have women physicians for the women insane, copying too for every society the paper of Dr. John Batty Tuke on "Insane as Patients not Prisoners." Both my letters and the Dr.'s paper required much writing. I have now sent to 20 Counties, six of them have approved both reforms, and the rest will do so, I am assured as soon as their societies meet.

February 27: Thursday.

Since last writing I have been very busy with sending my papers to societies, writing letters to them and others and in response to all of them, [and] still have men doing a great many jobs needful to be done so as to be ready for the Spring.

Have had no palp. this week.

March 1: Saturday.

Have rec'd many letters today and six yesterday. Met Dr. Eleanor C. Jones today by appointment at Sp. Mill at 2 P.M. She came to get from me for Mrs. Dr. Jacobi, N. York, some account of the struggles we had to protect from insult the women doctors and to advance their interests during many years.

Sent as a present to Miss Forwood of Darlington, Maryland, Prof. Corson's "Introduction to the Poetry of Robert Browning," also "Browning, The Subtlest Assertor of the Soul in Song."

Wearry, weary, 9 P.M. So many letters every day; so many to write also. So much labor too, to lay before all the Co. Medical Societies of the State my pamphlets on two reforms which I am pushing. 1st to separate Trustees [physicians] of Hospitals for our Insane from all work save medical duties; 2nd to have women physicians for the insane of their sex.

March 8: Saturday.

Have written none for a week. Since supper, about 20 minutes ago, I was struck with palpitation, very hard, sudden, but they are always sudden. I tried the ice water but it failed; then lay down on my left side, 15 minutes, then jumped up to write as it often has gone off when I would get absorbed in writing. Just as I took my seat, it stopped at once. What a strange thing it is [to] jump from 52 beats in a minute to 140 in a second, beat at that, oft times for several hours, then in a second drop to 56 or 60 and directly to 52 in a minute, and then leave me as well as when it made the attack.

It was cold, 17° this morning, yesterday 8° at sunrise. Snow covers the ground.

Went at 9 A.M. to Geo. Corson's Kilns, then back to Plymouth P.O., then to Conshohocken. Paid my tax. Did several matters [and] got home by noon.

Afternoon. Went to Norristown to the Bank, to John J. Corson's, to "Margarets," to Mary Roberts, to Ellwood's office. Met Miss Dr. Alice Bennett there. Went to Montgomery Trust Co. to examine my box. Got home at sunset.

March 13: Thursday.

The weather has been very warm for two days. The Therm. up to 60° in the shade.

Today I have been in Phila., at the Commencement of the Woman's College; 42 young women graduated. While sitting on the Platform, in the front seat, I was attacked by palpitation, but I sat still, as I did not like to go out at a time so unusual for one to leave, just as the Orator had begun his address, so sat still and in less than 15 minutes it left.

Then went to Dr. Godell's [William Goodell] in Spruce St. ab[ove] Broad and spent perhaps 20 minutes with him. Then [went] to the office of Med. & Surg. Reporter, 13th & Walnut, to see the Editor, Dr. Dulles. Staid 15', then to 1224 Chestnut St. to

Board of Public Charities office, where I met my Kinsman Mahlon H. Dickinson, the President of the Board and Mr. [Cadwalader] Biddle, one of the Board. Talked an hour with them on the need of reform in the hospitals at Danville, Harrisburg, Warren & Pittsburgh. At 3:36 took the train for Conshohocken, was met by Robert (my man) with the carriage. Went to Esq. Smith's on business, then to Express Office and got an enlarged photograph of Follen which Mary had engaged of Thuaite & Co. Then [I] went to see my workmen engaged in making a Cistern at Joseph's Tenant House, then home at 5 ½ P.M. Pretty tired.

Think I made a good impression on Mr. Biddle & Pres. Dickinson of the B.P.C. in relation to the need of "Reform" in our State hospitals for the Insane. They earnestly promised their co-operation.

March 20: Thursday.

When I rose this morning there was a snow of two or four inches thick all over the ground and the trees were loaded. I do not know that I ever saw them more beautiful.

The Death of Dr. Edwin C. Leedom.

The day before yesterday, my long-time friend Dr. Edwin C. Leedom, who was a school mate with [me] nearly 80 years ago, always intimate till grown, a student with me at the medical department of the University in 1828, a practitioner along side of me at 31 to about 1875 when he began to lose his sight.

He died from the effects of a large dose of Laudanum taken by mistake. Being blind, he could not tell how much he had taken. Took it about 9 o'clock A.M. of the 17th; died at 3 P.M. on 18th.

He was a good man. Will be buried tomorrow, Friday 21st, to be buried in the old grave yard at Friends Meeting, Plymouth. I was with his son Dr. Oscar during his illness. It was fully an hour and a half after he had taken a monstrous dose before his son saw him & three hours before I did. We did all that we knew. Medicine failing, we used Electricity faithfully for hours.

March 21: Friday.

Doctor Leedom was buried at 2 ½ P.M. today. A good many of those who knew him were there and some relatives. Deposited in the grave yard belonging to Friends at Plymouth. How sad it seems that all whom I knew at Plymouth when young are now dead. The Leedoms, Maulsbys, Albertsons, Livezeys, &c., as well as every one of my father and mother's children.

March 22: Saturday.

The Med. & Surg. Reporter has my first of three papers on Pneumonia, 7 Columns nearly.

March 23: Sunday.

At home all day. Read much. Jay & Susan [were] here till noon from 10 A.M.

March 24: Monday.

Many letters by mornings mail. One from Lewis A. Sayre, the great N. York

Surgeon, thanking me for my paper on pneumonia. He rec'd. it on Saturday, and on Sunday wrote to me earnestly thanking and complimenting me.

The Press's Notice of it. In the Press is quite a notice of my paper. Several doctors interviewed concerning it. It, the Press notice, caused quite a sensation.

March 27: Thursday.

I was up at 6 A.M., sunrise. At 8 [was] at Spring Mill to take the cars on Reading Road; at 25 min. of 9 [was] at 9th & Green. Went from there to 917, to Merchants and Co., bought a galvanized Iron pump to take water out of our cellar, 10 feet long, price \$7.00. It is nearly or quite a four inch bore.

From thence to Lippincott's and bought my nephew's Book, "Introduction to the Poetry of Robert Browning," directed it to be sent to Prof. Dr. Wm. Goodell, of Spruce St., Phila. Then went to 13th & Walnut to see Dr. Dulles, the Editor of the Med. & Surg. Reporter and consult him about a 4th paper. He is willing to publish it. Left my 3rd one with him. [Came] home in the 11:29 train. [Was] home 20 min. after 12.

Rec'd from morning's mail two congratulatory letters from Dr. Traill Green, Easton, and Dr. Rhoades of Boyertown. Approved my paper greatly.

Physicians in Phila. somewhat annoyed that the Press Reporters should be after them to discover that they had never bled a person.

March 28: Friday.

Another thankful letter today from Dr. Moore of Lincoln, Nebraska. A day of sunshine and rain storms alternating almost every hour. Many letters written to friends and many rec'd.

March 29: Saturday.

Another letter with thanks and cordial well-wishes from Wm. B. Dewees of Salina, Kansas.

My "Second Paper" came out today, and my "Third Paper" is in the hands of the Editor.

April 4: Friday.

I finished my last and 4th paper last evening at 9 o'clock, 12 pages of Lawyer's kind. I have done a great many things this week. Frannie, Bertha & Joseph have sent letters. Tacie & her daughter "Carrie" spent Wednesday here. Tacie's husband W. L. Cresson is now engaged with a firm in Philad. in the introducing of "Magnetic Water" from N. York State, a wonderful water. If a needle be dipped into it, the needle becomes strongly magnetic, will pick up other needles, &c., &c.

I have just enveloped my 14 pages of writing on pneumonia, which I have finished since my supper. I suppose it is the last I shall ever write on that subject. How it will be received by the Medical Colleges in Phila. is doubtful.. I hope they will all do good.

April 6: Sunday.

I began to take Tinct.: Calasaya [Calisaya] Bark, Iron & Strychnia 1/60 every meal. I have had spells of palp. two or three times daily for the past several days, but a

glass of cold water, ice water when I could get it, would stop it in a few minutes if not at once. Sometimes it would stop before I could get the water.

Today I have not had it, but I do not attribute its absence to the med. I am feeling so well.

April 11: Friday.

Had not a sign of palp. Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. Thursday went to Phila.. Did a good deal of business till 11 ½ A.M., then took the cars for home. Half way home [is] when I was attacked. It lasted me till I got home and was ungearing the horse. The men were away. Have had nothing of it since, now the 11th.

April 14: Monday.

I have been wonderfully busy every day for months. I have written forty long explanatory letters to County Medical Societies showing the need of the two reforms which I suggest should be introduced into our hospitals for the Insane Poor. Also copied for about thirty of them the paper entitled, "Lunatics as Patients not Prisoners," by Dr. John Batty Tuke, England's greatest Alienist. Also sent my pamphlet to every one of them.

April 19: Saturday.

All this week I have been engaged every moment from sunrise till 9 ½ or 10 P.M. writing to County Medical Societies long letters to send with a pamphlet to each one. It has been a just work on me for weeks. I also copied about 40 of those, the paper entitle, "Lunatics as patients not prisoners." I have sent to more than fifty, about 54.

My third paper on pneumonia came out today. Have had two physicians, of whom I never before heard to write complimentary letters about my pneumonia papers, viz. Dr. Vanderpool of Fort Lee, New Jersey, and Dr. McHenry of Bedford County, Pa., also another from Dr. Sabal of Florida. Had a great many other letters this week.

Have been much occupied in attending to my farmer and hired man, doing up various matters.

April 22: Tuesday.

Still busy as ever with various kinds of work, farming, writing for the papers and for med. journals. My third paper on pneumonia is before the profession. Received letters, complimentary ones, in relation to it.

April 24: Thursday.

A.M. The morning's mail brought me a letter from Dr. Sholl about my pneumonia papers, of which he greatly approves.

Wedding of Sallie Corson Highley, daughter of my Brother Charles Corson and wife's daughter Susan and Felix Highley, at 6 ½ o'clock this evening. There were nearly 100 persons present, perhaps more. I had stopped at daughter Tacie Cresson's and took a nice tea before I went over to the Highley residence.

The groom was George Holstein, son of Dr. George Holstein of Bridgeport, whose wife is Daniel Brower's daughter.

At 7 ½ P.M. I left from home. Had taken daughter Mary with me and had left her with Tacie, while Carrie Cresson, Tacie's daughter went with me to Highley's. Reached home at 8 ¼ P.M.

April 30: Wednesday. [Dr. Corson wrote Thursday, April 31]

Georgie Corson, daughter of my nephew George N. Corson of Norristown, was married this evening at 8 o'clock Mr. [empty space] at the St. John's Episcopal Church at Norristown by the Rev. Gibson, Rector. There were two or three hundred of people present. Thomas Hovenden and his wife Helen, my Brother George Corson's daughter, came over here and took daughter Mary and myself with them, and all of us, with Dr. Ellwood N. Corson and his wife occupied the 3rd pew front. Ellwood's daughter Kitty was one of the Bride's Maids, and Nina Read, daughter of Dr. Lewis W. Read, my Sister Sarah's son, was the "Queen" of the bridal party. There were other brides maids. It was quite a Brilliant Wedding.

Today at 4 P.M. I was expected to be present at a reception given to young Dager at Manayunk. Today the young man was to receive his diploma Doctor of Medicine at the University of Pa., and I was invited because when his sister, a stranger to me, wrote to me to befriend him by using my influence to get him into a hospital, I kindly offered him whatever aid I could bring to him, and introduced him by letter to Dr. James Tyson, Dean of the Faculty. Oh! how grateful the sister and mother were, & what kind letters they wrote to me and then the invitation to be with them today at 4 P.M. to a "Lunch." It would have been pleasant no doubt to be there and was kin in them to invite me, but I declined; thought I was too old to be running around to meet such young people. All these three cards are in the big card basket up stairs.

Two other invitations, one to reception at Polytechnic College, by the Association of Ladies interested in it. The other to Alumni Dinner at the Academy of Music by the Alumni Association of the University of Pennsylvania Medical Department.

I lost my card to the Polytechnic & missed the day. It was in the day-time and I could have gone. The other occurred at 8 P.M. and I thought it too late for me to be out.

May 1: Thursday.

Had palp. six hours. Had a great deal to do, some writing & reading, &c. &c. during the time I have to look after the men too a great deal as I am trying to have things done well.

May 7: Wednesday.

Went to Doylestown by invitation of the Medical Society to address them on the reforms in treatment of the insane suggested by me. Dined with Dr. [empty space]. Then went to the Court House, talked to the members for an hour, and they passed a Resolution approving the reforms. Then I went to see Cousin Hannah White. Then at 4:40 P.M. took the train in company with Dr. Coleman & Dr. Paxson for home via Ambler, then by carriage via Broad Axe Tavern, &c.

Editor's note: On the next page in the diary Dr. Corson pasted a long newspaper column of the memorial honoring Dr. Edwin Conover Leedom which he presented to the Montgomery County Medical Society. He then made the following entry:

“It seemed to me to be incumbent on me to do this, as I am the only person in the Society that knew him since childhood. He was a year and two months younger than myself. This form of memoir was much approved by the members. H.C.”

May 8: Thursday.

Meeting of State Board of Health at Norristown.

I went up this P.M. on business. At 7 o'clock Mrs. Hovenden, my niece & Dr. Alice Bennett came and wished me to go to a Reception of the Board at Dr. J. K. Weaver's. I finally concluded, did go. Met several old friends whom I had not seen for a few years. Dr. Sibbett [Sibbet] of Carlisle, Dr. Lee of Phila, Sec. Dr. Dudley of the Board, as is Dr. Sibbett, and a great many Norristown people. Dr. Bennett was the only woman. Reached home at 10 ¼, ready for bed.

It is pleasant to meet old friends. Dr. Sibbett was with me on the Com. to “Report on the propriety of having women physicians for the women Insane in our State Hospitals.

May 9: Friday.

Failure of Wm. Slingluff.

Nearly one week ago we were surprised to hear that Wm. Slingluff, Sec. & Treas. of the “Montgomery Mutual Trust and Safe Deposit Company,” located in the “Old Montgomery Banking House,” had gotten away with about \$150,000 of its funds. I had only 5 shares in it at a cost of \$575, though only \$50 per share has yet been paid, but I had given the whole sum when I bought, because it had been in existence some years and the stock was then valued at that much per share. Now we will probably have to pay up the other installment of \$50 per share to enable the Board of Directors to pay Depositors. So, I have been put to loss by two Institutions in one year. This one and the Tradesmen's Bank.

After breakfast I have been sent for to visit John Wood Jr. I suppose he wants to see me as a physician. I shall go down [and] afterwards up to Norristown to the meeting of the Board of Health.

Had an interesting meeting in the Court House from 2 ½ P.M. till 6 P.M. I participated somewhat in the discussion on the subject of furnishing towns with drinking water, free from sewage.

Editor's note: The program of “The Fourth State Sanitary Convention” of the State Board of Health is pasted in the diary. The sessions were held May 9 and 10, 1890, in the Court House at Norristown.

May 14: Wednesday.

Still busy, busy. Have \$250 to pay on account of the Slingluff defalcation. Have 5 shares Trust Co. Stock for which I paid John J. Corson, my nephew, \$757 under the belief that the hundred dollars per share had become worth \$115, when in fact only \$50 per share had been paid, and now I am compelled to pay the other fifty per share. I was deceived.

My two gd. children, Bertie Day and Bertie Yocom have been here several days. Smart, pleasant children. [They] went home this afternoon after I returned from

Norristown where I had gone to reloan [of] \$1000 which was paid me on a mortgage yesterday.

Began to plant corn yesterday.

May 20: Tuesday.

I have had palp. very often yesterday, last night and today. Twice yesterday and for three hours one time, then just as I went to bed at 9 P.M. This lasted till midnight; then had it after 3 A.M. for two hours. Then just before breakfast, but the last did not continue long. It was over before 6 ½, and I went to take our woman Tildy [Matilda] to the cars. Afterwards went at 8:15 A.M. to meet Frannie & Bertha, but it was rainy and they did not come. Just after reaching home at 10 ½, I got palp. again and it lasted till after dinner. At 2 P.M. got it again. [It] went off in about half an hour. I may say truthfully that I have had one or more almost every day for weeks.

May 22: Thursday.

The letters rec'd. and written this week have been many. I have been very busy over-looking my two men, giving them directions for doing the work in the best way to economize time. No palp. today, but a short one last night in bed.

Three very grateful letters today and some on business. Wrote a review of Dr. Dewees' pamphlet on "La Grippe."

Replied in a long paper to Dr. Bagwells case of pneumonia, treated successfully by means without vs. [venosectio, blood-letting].

[Received an] Invitation this evening to an "opening" of a new building at Elwyn for the Feeble Minded Children to take place on Thursday next, May 29th, [issued by] Joseph K. Wheeler, Wm. H. Miller, Isaac N. Kerlin.

May 25: Sunday.

9 ½ P.M. I have had palpitation four times today, but not one lasted more than ¼ an hour. I wrote & read a good deal and what is remarkable, did not ride at all. The horses (3) were turned loose in the lots near to the house, in most excellent pasture, and they enjoyed themselves greatly. Several letters rec'd. & sent away.

May 26: Monday.

9 P.M. No palp. today. Have felt very well and did a good deal of overseeing the men and contriving for them, besides a good deal of reading. [Received] several letters. Read Chicago Journal in its entirety, some excellent papers.

May 27: Tuesday.

7 ½ A.M. Palp. struck me at 3 A.M. and despite a resort to many of the means which have often arrested it, it is still upon me. 7:40. Has just stopped and is at its old place, lasted 4 hours & 40 minutes.

This is much shorter than the spells used to be years ago. They often lasted from 8 to 16 hours, sometimes 20 and once 22 hours, another 26 hours, and in some of these spells I was out at my practice.

8 ½ A.M. Last evenings mail brought to me an invitation to write for the "University Magazine." They "would be glad to publish any thing you write." This is

quite satisfactory in as much as it comes so quickly on my attack on the treatment of pneumonia, by Dr. Pepper, et. al.

9 P.M. Have not had palp. since it went off this morning, but have felt miserable. Generally as soon as it was away, I would be perfectly well. After dinner Mary and myself went to Norristown. I fixed up my Trust Co. business by paying another \$50. At first it was on every share of stock, which would be \$250 for me. But it is not needed, and so I got off with \$100. I got some Digitalis leaves to make infusion. I will take no Calisaya Bark & Strychnia any longer, but will give the Digitalis a trial.

May 28: Wednesday.

Up at sunrise after a pretty good night and feel better than yesterday. Will write to Bertha before breakfast time, but must now go out, see the chickens, which are waiting for me. How very early chickens do rise, long before sunrise they are strolling around through the grass.

11 ¼ P.M. Mary was desirous to go to an "Entertainment" of "The Band of Mercy," in which she is greatly interested, so she took her woman, "Tilda," with her & little Jimmy who lives with us, and had gone in the afternoon & invited my gd. son Thomas Yocom to come & stay with me. Mary and party did not get back from Linsinger's Hall until 11 P.M. So now I record this and go to bed.

May 29: Thursday.

8 ½ P.M. I went at 7 ½ to Consho., prepared to go to Phila. to collect some interest from two Banks & two other monied Companies, daughter Susan to go with me. Had not gotten to the turnpike road before I had palp. to strike me pretty hard; it was still on me when I reached Susan's house. She gave me ice-water and in a few minutes I was well. I had only slept about three hours the previous night, and feared it, palp. would trouble me in the City, but we went in the 8:48 from Consho., dropped down to 4th St. to see Robert R. Corson, then to Phila. Bank, then to Lombard Investment Co., then to Guaranty Trust Co., then to Wannamaker & Brown Clothing Store in Chestnut below 9th and purchased a suit of black clothing for \$30. Then took the cars at Broad St. for home. I sat by Dr. Wm. McKinsy [McKenzie], a former student of mine, and Susan was edified by Mrs. Dr. David R. Beaver. We reached Jawood Lukens at 1:10 P.M., had a good dinner, and reached Maple Hill at 2:30 P.M., a successful trip.

Lounged about, overseeing the men till evening and am now just ready for bed.

May 30: Friday.

Nothing out of the daily routine.

May 31: Saturday.

9 P.M. Up at 5 A.M. Splendid morning. Set the men to work after breakfast. Then went to Conshohocken, got \$5 Div. from Turnpike; did some business. Went to Norristown by the back road. Went up to see Tacie. A big dearborn of Summac [sic] short wood, just arrived by my man. Gave Tacie eleven dollars to get Rail Road tickets for the children for a month, to go to school. Made a deposit in the Bank. Saw some friends, Dr. Bennett and two young pupils at Bryn Mawr College. Took ice cream with them. [Was] home by one P.M.

Afternoon. Read some, wrote also, attended to the man and the gardener. Mary went with Sallie Huston to aid the latter to form a Band of Hope at Barren Hill Church.

June 1: Sunday.

Bright lovely morning. Up at 5. Went at 9:30 to meet Bertha and her two youngest children Dorothea & James Jr. After dinner, we had a good deal of company. About 2 ½ P.M., Thomas Yocum [sic] and Helen Wood, Allan Wood Jr. and Mary Carter Corson came. Soon John J. Corson & his seven children [came]. After a while Thomas Hovenden and Helen [came], and at supper time, Dr. Alice Bennett, the chief physician of the great Eastern Hospital at Norristown and two lady pupils from the Bryn Mawr College. The front piazza looked as in years ago. For the last two years it has had little company on it.

June 2: Monday.

Bright, lovely morning like yesterday. Busy at various things all day. Had letters & answered a number. Frannie Day [was] here. In the P.M. Mary & myself went with her to Norristown to see Tacie & got Mary a Bonnet and myself to deposit papers in my box.

June 3: Tuesday.

Mary & her woman, Tildy, went to Girard College to see Tildy's son Charley, as this was "Mother's day." There they met Frannie Day and her daughter Bertha, Bertha Yocom and her daughter Bertha, and I forgot to say, that at Sp. Mill Mary Carter Corson joined them. I met them at 6:40 P.M. and brought them home. I was alone from noon till that time, save Jimmy, the boy, was about. Had five letters today & wrote four.

June 4: Wednesday.

Opened the house all through as usual. Fed the chickens. A fine party they are. How pleasant to inhale the "breath of morning," redolent with the perfumes of grass & roses and the numerous other flowers and the flowering grape!

June 8: Sunday.

Went at 9 A.[M.] to meet my nephew Thomas Adamson (Consul General at Panama) and his wife at Sp. Mill. They have been but a few days in Phila. fresh from their Central America home.

Thomas & myself went to Plymouth Meeting. He was desirous to go. When we came back, my daughter Susan & her husband Jawood Lukens were here, their horse being tied to the port at the end of the office. I tied mine at the port behind the office.

In a few minutes my niece Ida Corson drove in with a poney to the now fashionable "Cart." She stopped in the lane back of Jawood's carriage and was just reaching to put the whip in the pouch alongside of the dasher, when I made a gentle pull on the bell robe to call the man. It was a very gentle tap, followed by one more, when I saw Ida's horse fly like lightening past Jay's carriage and Ida grabbing at the lines which she had been loosely holding in one hand. I was shocked, and as I saw him fly between my own wagon & the evergreen tree behind the office, I dashed around past the office door to see the wreck, for I expected nothing else. But strange to say, he just escaped my

wagon & the tree and Ida had recovered the rein & before he got to the out-Kitchen had him checked. Never was I more thankful for any thing. And what was most fortunate, not to say providential, only a few days before, I had two low limbs removed, cut away from the tree. Had they been on, she would have been swept out of the Cart and perhaps killed.

June 12: Thursday.

My man, Robt. Weidmoyer, has been so annoying lately that I was anxious to get rid of him. This morning he did not come, and I hope he has left.

The State Medical Society, I see by the "Press," has [approved] in accordance with "my appeal to the Soc. in a preamble and resolution."

June 17: Tuesday.

Early morning, 5 ½. Today William Albertson is to be buried at the Plymouth Grave Yard of Friends. He is the last of the family of five children, Hannah, Sam'l., Wm., Abby, all married; Joseph unmarried when he died.

Daughter Bertha & her son Hiram were here on Sunday, indeed part of Sat. also. (Also Jawood & Susan & Thomas Yocom, Mary Carter Corson & Bertie Day, the last three being gd. children).

Mrs. Emily Corson was very sick on Saturday & Sunday; [was] under my care. I did not like to have her case on my mind, so got them to send for Ellwood, my nephew. She was sick at stomach & had frequent attempts at stool, but each time discharged only a little bloody-looking water. We think it is the result of eating a great many strawberries for the past several days.

At 3 P.M., the body of William Albertson was borne into the little Orthodox Meeting House. There were perhaps twenty five men assembled, ten of them had come from Philad., his engineering friends and pall-bearers. I never witnessed a sadder funeral. He was one of the finest looking men, if not the very finest, and cut off in the prime of life and his son too ill with consumption to come to the internment. His widow, too sad for tears, stood like a statue by the side of the coffin, as he lay there for his friends to see, but there was no sobbing, no howling as is so common at funerals. In the house and around the grave there was a silence so unbroken and deep as to show the universality of the sorrow in all hearts present. I was sad indeed and strong was my sympathy for the afflicted and devoted wife who went back to her home in Philad. to nurse her only son gradually dying of consumption. How surely are we born to sorrow.

It is time to begin to cut grass. I have about 12 acres of it and have no one to do it who has ever done the work for me before. But I shall get along with it I suppose, always have.

Editor's note: Next pasted in the diary is a newspaper clipping titled "INGERSOLL ON VIVISECTION. The Lawyer Expresses Himself Strongly Against Such Methods of Science," and a letter to Dr. Corson from Dr. Samuel Wolfe from Skippack, now residing at 828 N. 7th St., Philadelphia. Dr. Wolfe had met and had a long conversation with Mr. Yocom, Dr. Corson's son-in-law, who mentioned that his daughter Georgie, age 13, has occasional palpitations similar to Dr. Corson's. In his letter, Dr. Wolfe states that "this is a striking example where hereditary influence is manifesting itself in the 3rd generation,

as I understand that your children have all escaped to this time. There is moreover an other curious feature in this, as I understand that your illness did not develop till after the birth of Mrs. Yocom.” Dr. Hiram Corson’s only comment by the pasted letter is, “Dr. Samuel Wolfe on my palpitation.”

June 22: Sunday.

I have been very busy the past week, overseeing my hay-makers at the work, at writing letters and replying to numerous correspondents. Went to Philadelphia one day to get clothes and to take Mary to Dr. Thomas G. Morton that he may advise me what I can do for her knee, more than I have done. He was pleased with the apparatus that I have on her and could not advise anything new.

Dr. Alice Bennett called yesterday, no, day before to see me and tell me about the State Medical Meeting at Pittsburgh. The Superintendents [are] greatly frightened.

June 29: Sunday.

All last week we were making hay, & the weather being favorable, we took in a great deal of most excellent hay.

In the early part of this month the State Medical Society of Penna. had a meeting at Pittsburgh. I had a Preamble and Resolution in the hands of the Secretary, but Dr. Wood introduced a resolution to the same effect and as it was passed, mine was not needed.

I was at Friends Meeting today, also last First-day. It is interesting to me to go. My mind is pretty occupied by reflecting on the changes which have occurred in the space of my life-time. Not one of those there who were there even when I was twenty years old; all have gone.

This afternoon, John J. Corson & all but one of his seven children were here an hour, also Richard H. Day, Jawood Lukens & Susan as they went from Meeting, also Thomas Yocom to dinner & supper & Dr. E. M. Corson & wife after supper.

Men’s weaknesses. “Resolve and re-resolve then die the same.” How common [is] this. The force of habit is very great, wonderfully hard to be overcome. Dr. Joseph Parrish and his friends who are so interested in “Inebriety as a Disease,” regard the outbreaks of the intemperate not as the result of habit or custom, but the effect of disease or an hereditary disposition, transmitted from parents.

My feeling is that it is not a positive disease, but a mental and moral weakness, or a disregard of the monitions of conscience. Heroic resolution will overcome bad habits.

July 1: Tuesday.

When I see ardent Church members so wedded to the use of tobacco that despite their desire [to stop], they can’t do it. I do not wonder that those used to drink daily of intoxicating drinks cannot break the habit, when they feel that they are injuring and disgracing them and when they resolve, and pray to be released from the habit.

July 12: Saturday.

Evening. We have finished our hay and grain harvest this afternoon. Our barn is crowded with the crops and all “gotten in” without injury.

Death of Mary Carter Corson, daughter of my son Dr. Joseph K. Corson, now at Fort Sherman, Idaho. Mary had been several months at school in Germantown. It closed in the early part of June, but the persons, Gilmore Price and his Cousin Miss Pierce, with whom her Father I believe had arranged that she should come, as they were then to go to Fort Sherman, where Major Price, father of Gilmore, was stationed, could not start until June 25th. So we had her for about three weeks visiting all around but at Jawood Lukens' she staid most of the time. We as well as she had pleasant times. She was a lovely girl. During the month, about the middle of it, word was sent to daughter Susan Lukens that they had deferred starting until the 26th. On that day Jawood Lukens and his wife, my daughter Susan, went with Mary to New York and at the appointed time, the other two persons be with her. She took leave of them and in the fast Express for California went off at the rate of about 30 miles an hour. This is a new train and the fastest from the East to California. On the [empty space] of the month, Susan Lukens, her aunt, rec'd the following letter from her, written on the train. [This letter is not in the diary.]

Copy of a telegram received by daughter Susan F. Lukens while I was with her at her House July 1st, 1890, 4 P.M.

Missoula, Montana

Mr. Jawood Lukens,

Little Mary Corson was killed in a railroad accident near here last evening. Dr. and Mrs. Corson are here. We return to Fort Sherman tonight. She will be buried there temporarily.

J. W. Bubb,

Captn. U. S. Army

Editor's note: At this point in the diary are pasted several newspaper clippings reporting the railroad accident and two letters Dr. Joseph K. Corson wrote to his father Dr. Hiram Corson. The diary entries continue as follows:

I will hold Joseph's letters and Ada's, not write them here. They may prefer to have them again. Day after day people come to me to talk about her. The fact that she was cut off so suddenly and when so near home, after a long absence, and her parents anxiously looking for her, makes it seem so dreadful to them and calls forth their sympathy. It is grateful to me to know that they feel so great sympathy, but it is a little annoying to be asked all about it so often, and to them much more.

July 19: Saturday.

I have skipped a few pages in which to fill in more about little Mary as we hear details. Strange that we can bear to live after such a sacrifice of what we loved so dearly. Letter after letter has come from Joseph who is so sorely agonized. What a fearful thing it was to them. In a letter to Susan, which came yesterday from Ada, she said they were that very evening when the telegram came, busy preparing for her reception in the morning. Oh how fearful must have been that blow!! It said she was

hurt. Away they dashed for the railroad 12 miles away, arrived there just in time to receive another telegram that she was dead.

July 20: Sunday.

My nephew, Thomas Adamson, Consul General of the United States at Panama, and his wife came from Philad. this morning to Spring Mill where I met them and brought them home. They staid with us till 5 P.M. when they went to George Corson's, or rather to his mother's to tea. They have both seen so much of the world that they are very interesting. I had a strong palpitation for about five minutes soon after breakfast, a lighter one at 10 o'clock at Spring Mill and one while talking with Thomas at 4 P.M. The last one was strong but only [of] about five minutes duration.

Mary went with them to Emily's. They are now speculating with their son Charles in Georgia, at a small town named Cedar-town, and Thomas says, "if their venture should prove successful there, and his investment of 10,000 dollars should make & 30,000 more, he will resign his office."

I got a letter from daughter Bertha last evening, thanking me for a present of \$20 sent to her a few days ago.

July 24: Thursday.

On Tuesday 22nd, Helen Hovenden, my niece, came over after dinner and took me to "Radnor Station" on Pa. R.R. There we took the train for "Frazer" 15 miles above, then stepped down about 400 yards to the House once the home of Genl. Wayne, Mad Anthony Wayne, of Revolutionary fame, now occupied by my Cousin Mrs. Sarah Corson Phipps, daughter of my Uncle Thomas Corson, dec'd., of the "great Chester Valley." She is now in her 85th year, six months younger than myself. We had a pleasant half hour with her, then went about three hundred yds. further to see the widow of her brother Marple Corson. There we met her, her daughter, unmarried, and two grand children, named Flyn [sic] from Wilmington, Delaware.

Returned to the train at 20 min. before 6, was at home at 7 P.M. Helen staid to tea. We were hungry and tired and enjoyed the supper greatly, plain as it was.

Letter from Joseph yesterday, 23rd. [He is] still suffering from the loss of dear Mary, writes affecting letters.

Temperature 56° in morning; cold all day. I am taking things as easy as possible. It is hard work to do nothing. I can't read or write much since Mary's loss.

July 27: Sunday.

7 A.M. We have had a very acceptable and copious rain during the last two days and this morning is agreeable and though the Temp. is only 70°, threatens to be a hot day. Helen & Mary went to go to Elijah Pennypacker's today to see Thomas Adamson & wife before they leave August first for Panama. What twaddle about the weather! Who cares about it? It is just like the weather of the summers.

8 ½ A.M. Have since breakfast read Friends Intelligencer and Journal half through. It is an excellent publication. The day is clearing up.

August 10: Sunday.

Two weeks have passed since I last wrote here. What have I done in this time?

On 2nd day July 28th and 3rd day July 29th, I went on in my usual way and in addition prepared to go to Atlantic City the next day.

Visit to Atlantic City.

On the morning of 4th day, 30th, I left home to meet Dr. W. Stump Forwood, whom I had invited to be my guest on a visit to Atlantic City, at Broad & Market St. Station. He came just after 12 noon. After a lunch there, I took him to see Dr. Dulles, Editor of the "Medical and Surgical Reporter." After a brief visit there, we went to the steam boat at Market St. wharf, across to Camden, and then to Atlantic City. We could not get single rooms at the "Vermont House," kept by Mr. Roberts, son of my old friend Wm. B. Roberts now deceased. So he was put in a cottage hard by, and I went to daughter Bertha Yocom's a hundred yards away, S. E. Cor[n]er, Atlantic and Vermont Aves.

My dear friend Samuel Tyson was at the Vermont, and himself and daughter, Dr. Forwood, my gd. daughter Frannie Yocom and myself until seventh day noon enjoyed ourselves, "doing up" Atlantic City, and a pleasant time we had of it.

I had but a single short spell of palpitation during the time. At 3 P.M. Sat., Aug. 2nd, we left for home, arrived in time for supper a short time after 6 P.M.

On First-day [Aug. 3rd], we went to Meeting (Hicksite Friends). After Meeting [went] to Mr. Hovenden's to see his picture just finished, "Leaving Home," an admirable one in my judgment.

Afternoon. Dr. Forwood took a long nap. After tea, we went to daughter Susan F. Lukens' and staid till dusk.

Second-day, Aug. 4th. We went in a carriage to Valley Forge. The W.C.T. Union was in session for 10 days there. We met several of the ladies at dinner, visited their tents, then rode through the woods, over the hill to find the intrenchments, then on home, by six & half P.M.

Third-day, Aug. 5th. Daughter Frannie C. Day came at 10 A.M. Dr. Forwood left here at 11 A.M. for Phila. on his way home. We were greatly pleased with his visit to us, and we think he enjoyed it.

August 13: Wednesday.

Since last writing a week ago, I have been going on in the usual way. Have seen professionally three old patients and two others; one a boy with St. Vitus' Dance, a poor family. I get the Snake Root, make the infusion and give it to him; also get him the fluid extract from Dr. Baker's Drug Store. He is getting well. Have also a young girl with Le Petit Mal, incipient epilepsy. These affections of young people are sad for them and painful to me.

Have had many letters during the week. Two from Dr. Forwood and daughter, one from Dr. Sayre of N. York, and several others, as well as from Joseph. Have also written every day. Carrie Cresson is still with us, our hired woman having been away almost a week. Daughter Mary is the ostensible house keeper, Carrie her aid and Mary Cunningham the real worker.

Started at 8 ½ A.M. in the carriage by myself and went to North Wales. There got my friend Seth Lukens in the carriage and we went to the office of "North Wales Record." I saw the Editor, Wilmer Johnson and his aid Dr. Shrawder. I had a talk with them. Seth being hard of hearing contended himself with reading the papers. Then we

went on to Lansdale. There visited the "Mad-dog doctor," Mr. Fry, who keeps a kind of notion & tobacco store, principally the latter. I had quite a talk with the mad-dog doctor who says their family has had in all about 300 cases who were bitten, then treated by them from the grandfather down to him, and all got safely protected, "not one went mad," which I happen to know is not true, as Isaac Yerkes' son died, after taking their medicine. The doctor said, "he did not take it but for two or at most three days, then went out and drank water." Oh, it would be great foolery, if it did not ease the mind of the patient. It is a process of 14 days, in a dark room, no water to be drunk.

I went to see him because I think of writing on Hydrophobia and wished to know the facts in relation to their work.

Leaving the mad-dog doctor, we took dinner, then visited two other doctors; pretty poor affairs. Then [we] returned to Seth Lukens' where we met Dr. John Shrawder who is greatly excited about the Candidates for Congress, wishes to defeat Wanger, and so came down with me to see if we could not get Charles Heber Clarke [Clark] to engage in an active canvass for the nomination. Got home at 6 P.M. After supper went to Conshohocken, to Jawood Lukens', and with him to see Alan Wood and Charles H. Clarke [sic]. Had quite a long talk. Reached home at 9 P.M.

August 14: Thursday.

Reached Norristown about 10 A.M. Attended the Farmers Meeting in the Court-House [in the] forenoon and then [went] home to dinner, then back to the 2 P.M. meeting. At 4 it adjourned, and I reached home before six. There were good speeches in favor of reducing the taxes on land, &c.

August 18: Monday.

Since last writing have been going on quietly, receiving and writing many letters, collecting money, visiting two old patients, going to bed at 9 P.M., rising at 5 ½ A.M. which comes quite early apparently. I call Mary and Carrie at 6. Our woman has now been away eleven days.

August 19: Tuesday.

9 P.M. This morning Dr. Shrawder came before breakfast, to get me to see or write to my friend David Newport to encourage him to go strongly against Wanger for Congress. Dr. Shrawder had heard that D. Newport intends to rise in his place as a Delegate in the Convention and announce his opposition to the nomination of Wanger on the ground of his great immorality as shown by Dr. Shrawder in a late issue of the "North Wales Record."

I wrote friend Newport after breakfast, sent several pamphlets to Dr. Carpenter of Pottsville by his request, also two to Dr. Jewett of Cortland, N.Y., a Postal to Dr. Atkinson, Sec. Am. Med. Assoc., a letter to Dr. Dulles, Editor [of the] "Reporter." Pamphlets to Dr. Sanborn, Sups. Hospital for Insane, Augusta, Maine.

Letters from Ada, Susan, Dr. John T. Carpenter, Tacie, Mr. Young (Maine Board of Health), Dr. Jewett & Dr. Hallister of Chicago.

Palp. began at 3 P.M. I had no ice-water at hand; tried Cistern water, but as the rain had been going into it for a couple of days, "off and on," it was not cold and it had no effect. So it cont'd. I had much correspondence on hand, therefore kept on writing.

It often goes off when I become deeply interested, but it went on. I ate supper. A queer thing that it don't affect my appetite. Sometimes [it] will go away while I eat although having cont'd. for hours before. After supper it cont'd. for about an hour. No lying down in bed, or any of the tricks which sometimes rid me of it; [it] prevailed for an hour or two more. Before 8 P.M. it left. At 9 P.[M.] I took a bath and went to bed.

August 20: Wednesday.

7 A.M. Slept tolerably. My rheumatic shoulder pained me some, so as to make me uncomfortable. How strange that when I get up and go around I am free from it almost at once.

August 21: Thursday.

7 ½ A.M. Up at 6, wrote in the office till breakfast time at 7. Am now ready for work.

9 P.M. Began with the little boys, Charley Day and Jimmy Cunningham, to clean the large minerals and return them freshly labeled to the shelves; cleaned yesterday only those in the annex. After working at that until 10:30, I began "a paper" on Hydrophobia and wrote two pages nearly of fools-cap. [It] rained after dinner. Went at 3 ½ P.M. to Consho. to get Jawood Lukens to sign the Children's Bonds (refunding), for the Trust Co. in Follen's estate. Home to supper. Wrote several letters during the day; rec'd three.

August 24: "First Day" [Sunday].

I should have said 8th mo. 24th (to be consistent). In the forenoon I went to Plymouth Meeting, "Hicksite Friends." Lydia H. Price preached one hour and five minutes, spoke rapidly, and nearly the whole time held her arms crossed at the wrists behind her back, a singular position for a woman. After she closed, Robert Hatton spoke briefly. I did not recognize him, but after [the] Meeting closed I inquired who he was, and he had asked the same person for me. So I soon met him. He wished much to know about the old "Jones Family" of Gwynnedd [Gwynedd]; wishes some time to see me "for an hour or so."

Afternoon. "I had made up my mind," what queer phrases we use, to go to Germantown to see Cousin Jonathan & Susan Jones, now Lukens. But soon after reaching home from the Meeting, Jawood Lukens and Thomas Yocom left here to go home. The horse stumbled, threw them out of the cart and ran home, upsetting a carriage with Wm. Jones and his wife in it. So, hearing of the disaster, I went to see about it. Nobody hurt, horse & cart hurt somewhat.

August 25: Monday.

Rose at 5:30, had slept very well. At 6 ½ sat down to write. Was taken with palp. soon after I began. It held on to me about an hour. I have had short spells nearly every day, once last week [one for] about 4 hours. Generally, a tumbler full of cold water will stop it instantly, but not always. About every ten days it seems that there must be a longer one.

At 9 A.M. went to Norristown to deposit a check in Bank and to receive \$600 from a man who wants to pay that much on a mortgage for \$1,600.

After dinner went into the School House where I keep my minerals and with little "Jim" worked all the time until called to tea, cleaning them and re-labeling them.

After tea, read Boker's "Book of the Dead" till I could no longer see without a lamp, then sat on the front porch till 8 ½ P.M. when I went with "Jim" to Spring Mill to bring home our woman, who had gone down with her little son to return him after a month vacation. We got back at 9:35 P.M. To bed then.

Letters from Joseph and one from Editor of Am. Med. Assoc. Journal.

August 26: Tuesday.

Up at 5:45. Went to the minerals until called to breakfast at 7 A.M. After breakfast [was] at them till 10 when Frannie Day came. Staid with her till dinner, 12 noon.

Afternoon. At the minerals, after reading the "Press," till 3 P.M. Then spent two hours with Frannie. At 5 P.M. took Frannie to the cars. After supper Jawood Lukens and gd. son Thomas Yocom came here and staid till nearly nine o'clock.

Daughter Susan F. Lukens has been away from home about five days. She and her friend, next door neighbor Mrs. Howard Wood with her 3 boys and Helen her daughter and two children of Charles Heber Clark & wife, went last Thursday in a small vessel 53 feet long, propelled by steam produced by burning Naphtha, up the Delaware River to Bordentown, then through the Canal to New Brunswick and down Raritan Bay to the Hudson, then up the Hudson to West Point and other towns on that River. Are now, Jawood says, at [empty space].

August 27: Wednesday.

Rose at 5:30. The air is delightful this morning, warm and balmy with a fine breeze.

September 3: Wednesday.

I have done a great deal of gossiping for a week past, going here and there on business of little account. Have written and rec'd. many letters, among them one rec'd. from E. E. Montgomery, M.D. of Philadelphia inviting me to a Reception at his house, to meet the members of "The American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists," on Sep. 16 from eight to eleven P.M. at 1818 Arch St.

Saturday last I went to Germantown and took daughter Frances Day to see a Cousin, Mrs. Susan Lukens. Her father was Charles Jones, brother to Frannie's grand mother Foulke. Mrs. Lukens is at present at her brother's Jonathan Jones' house in Germantown. We had a pleasant visit of an hour, revised old memories and called old friends from the grave to be with us in our meeting after a separation of fifty years. She is a pleasant old lady, and was an attractive young one, sixty years ago, now widow of Dr. Ezra Lukens, long since deceased. [She is the] mother [of] two of two daughters who are married to rich men and live in Brooklyn, New York.

We also paid a brief visit to Sister Hannah Bacon and family. Got home at 6 P.M. Next day, Sunday, went to Meeting, after two hours of reading & writing. After dinner, got daughter Susan to go with me to Samuel Tyson's. They were not home.

Two days last week and two this week [I] have been cleaning and re-labeling my minerals. [They] are in pretty good order now. After dinner today, Frannie Day and self

were down in the house looking at them when Samuel Tyson came in, to see me and them. From that time for two hours we were then examining some of which I feared were not labeled right. Then we went to "Cold-Point Hill," Alan Corson's hill, to hunt for Actynolite [actinolite], but found none. Got some Washingtonite in that Erionite rock.

Helen Hovenden and family are home from Eagles Mere, and she called [this] afternoon.

September 4: Thursday.

Was up at 5:30 A.M. engaged in writing till breakfast at 6:50. At 7 was struck with palpitation. It lasted till 4 ½ P.M. For three days before I had had palp. for 10 or 15 minutes every day, and indeed nearly every day for weeks, but they did not incommode me much. Whether working at my minerals made them so frequent I can't tell.

September 5: Friday.

To the above invitation I made the following reply:

Maple Hill Sep 5/90

E. E. Montgomery, M.D.

Dear Doctor

Many thanks for your invitation to meet "The American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists" on Tuesday September 16th. When a few months since I responded in person to an invitation but a few miles away the host was surprised to see me and verdant enough to say so.

Old people often do not see the approach of dotage, and therefore have to examine ourselves frequently to see whether we are fit to be abroad and the misfortune is, we can't tell; it takes another to do that. "Well," I hear you say, "there is no better proof of it than garrulity, and here we have it in this unconventional letter." Nevertheless my Dear Doctor as I can't see it, I shall probably be with you. Farewell.

Hiram Corson

September 7: Sunday.

Yesterday, Saturday, though I did ride to Consho. & Norristown & do many things, beside reading, writing and working a little at my minerals, nothing of much importance occurred. Had a letter from Joseph & others. This morning is a pleasant one. I have been up since 6 o'clock; it is now 8 ½ and I have done a good deal of med. reading – Journals.

September 8: Monday.

Rose early, began to read at 6, before seven had palpitation badly. It lasted till noon. Read & wrote a good deal while it was on me. Went off exactly at noon; had it 5 hours. Had it before bed-time again but only for a few minutes.

Worked at my minerals after dinner.

September 9: Tuesday.

Worked pretty steadily cleaning the minerals and labeling them. No palpitation though I did not sleep well. Was awake much the last night.

September 10: Wednesday.

Worked steadily at the minerals until 4 P.M., then went to Conshohocken for ice, [was] at home by six.

September 11: Thursday.

Through with the work at the minerals. The woman came and scrubbed and cleaned the room (the former School House), and it looks to be quite a nice place.

Dull, very dull, cloudy weather but no rain of any account.

September 14: Sunday.

Last evening I had an attack of palp. while reading at 8 ½ P.M. A large drink of cold water stopped it as soon as taken.

My nephew Dr. Ellwood M. Corson reached home Thursday evening, 11th. He was here on Saturday, yesterday, and gave us quite an interesting account of his "European Trip."

Susan brought me a letter from Joseph to her. He thinks it will be better to get a lot in West Laurel Hill Cemetery for little Mary. It will always be so convenient to visit the grave there, the station being right on the ground.

September 16: Tuesday.

Went to Phila. to the meeting of the Am. Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, in the College of Physicians. After being in there a few minutes, the speaker, chairman I mean, rose and made quite a speech not a word of which did I hear, but which was a speech of welcome to Dr. Hiram Corson; then the eyes of the whole society were on me. I asked my next neighbor what he said. He told me. I then rose and spoke of my inability to hear it. The President then came down and invited me to take part in the proceedings.

It was a rainy day & after the adjournment at noon, I went out to 2040 Vine St. to see daughter Bertha. She not being at home, I went home.

September 18: Thursday.

Wednesday did not go, and I ought to say, I did not go to Dr. Montgomery's "Reception" last night.

Went early to the College of Physicians and as the meeting did not take place till 10 A.M., examined the museum. It is a splendid thing. When the meeting opened, they had had a business meeting. I went in and staid till the adjournment at one o'clock. The Secretary came to me and said that I had been elected an Honorary Member.

As this was the meeting of Delegates of the whole United States, and I was known personally to only a very few of them, it was a real honor. I ought to have mentioned that on the first day, on the adjournment, a gentleman came and wished to "take me by the hand," Dr. Reed, Cincinnati; then another, Dr. As ----- [Dr. William James Asdale] of Pittsburgh [Beaver Falls, Pa.] "knew me well by my writings."

September 20: Saturday.

Yesterday I had palp. for four hours. Had not had it before for a week, for 10 days indeed, save once or more for a few minutes. Have had it twice, a few minutes a time today.

September 21: Sunday.

Visited Job Roberts Matter in consultation with Dr. James Tyson of Penllyn at 10 A.M. This P.M. Dr. Alice Bennett came, soon followed by Jawood Lukens and Susan, Robert R. Corson & wife. We all to see Mr. Hovenden's painting, "Leaving Home," a beautiful thing. While there, Dr. Ellwood Corson's wife, son & daughter and her nephew young Wilkinson, who expects to go with her son Bayard to Cornell University, came, and also my niece Martha Jones. While there I got palpitation which lasted 2 hours.

September 22: Monday.

Another visit to Mr. Matter with Dr. Tyson. Found him much better. Dr. Tyson now pretty well convinced that his disease is not Typhoid Fever but an affection of large bowel.

Dr. E. M. Corson's visit to Berlin. He and Sister Ida left here in the early part of July and returned, he did, [in] Sep. Ida remained, with her friend Miss Lovett of Mt. Airy (in summer), Washington (winter).

Dr. Ellwood returned looking much thinner than when he left here, but had a pleasant time; went from Berlin to Switzerland & France & Germany.

September 24: Wednesday.

Went at one P.M. to the sale by the Sheriff of David Bruce's fine store, next door "Uncle William's" property as the children call it. Poor people, they bought at a high price \$8,000, then built a \$15,000 house & Bakery on it, a most useless extravagance, and all this when having only about \$1,200. The debt on it now is 22,000 dollars. It sold \$1,000 beyond the indebtedness.

At 2 P.M. went to the Medical Society in the Town Hall. A very interesting meeting. Dr. Aulde of Philad. was there, five women doctors & 24 men. Had a great deal of discussion on Dysentery, after a paper by Dr. Berger of N. Wales.

Rec'd. a letter from Joseph today. How sad he is about the death of Mary. And no wonder, she was a lovely child.

Yesterday I gave Carrie Cresson a watch, gold one, \$30.

September 27: Saturday.

Nothing special since last writing. Have been twice to Norristown to see the painters who are at my Sandy Hill house. They are to paint it outside, 2 coats, for \$85.

The Council is grading the Street, 55 feet wide. It will take off seven feet of the front of my yard and a whole row of trees, and it will cost me \$300 to have my curbing, more than 300 feet done, 58 cts. per foot.

September 28: Sunday.

My nephew Dr. E. M. Corson has been appointed Trustee to the Eastern Hospital

for the Insane. Jawood Lukens, Thos. Yocom & Alan Lukens called at 10 A.M. & took me to Meeting. Joel Lare [Lair] preached and poor old man (82) became so filled with emotion & tears that he broke down entirely while preaching.

Carrie Cresson has a friend, Miss Shaw with her here today. I have read a good deal today. Yesterday I read the "Kreuster Sonata" [The Kreutzer Sonata by Leo Tolstoy], the book which Postmaster Wannamaker would not allow to be carried.

September 29: Monday.

A fine bright morning, Temp. 40, frost. Up at 5:30. At 6 went to see if niece Mrs. Helen Hovenden would go with me to Bucks Co. to see the old "Corson Home." She will be ready at 8 or soon after. So here I am at 8 A.M. waiting to take her and daughter Mary, who is now playing the piano, to see where in 1726 Cornelius Corson of Staten Island first made a home in Bucks Co. Should we go and have time to visit Southampton Baptist Church, we will go there, as it is one of the burying places of the family of Corsons. We will also visit the little Huguenot grave yard at the White Bear Hotel in Addisville. It is not unlikely that I shall have palpitation, perhaps before I have gone a mile. What shall I do, turn back? No, I want to show the children the old home and other homes of Uncle Richard, Aunt Sallie Bennett, Aunt Jane Bennett and others. May perhaps have time, too, to visit Uncle Richard's daughter, Mrs. Nancy Search. Nous verrons!

Evening, quarter of 8 o'clock. Reached home at six o'clock P.M., have had supper and read the "Press." And now for the trip. Thomas Hovenden the Artist and his wife Helen (Corson) Hovenden, daughter of my brother George Corson born two years before I was and who has been deceased since 1860, my daughter Mary Adamson Corson and myself left my house at 27 minutes of 9 o'clock A.M. in a two horse barouche of Mr. Hovenden's. In 2 hours we were in Hatboro, in 3 hours at Addisville, where we put up at the "White Bear" Hotel, asked to have dinner, then stepped down to the old Huguenot grave yard, about 100 yards below the Hotel, and looked for the graves of my ancestors. We found of Corsons & Dungans, a good many dating far back, which I may record in the order of notes at the graves. We returned to the hotel and had a good dinner awaiting us of which we partook heartily. Then we started for the first home of the first (Benjamin) Corson of Pa., who came from Staten Island & bought a farm in Bucks Co. It was but half a mile from where we dined. It is just below Addisville. The White Bear Tavern is at the upper end & the Black Bear Tavern at the lower end of Addisville (now called Richboro) and ¼ of a mile or a little more below the latter, we go over a bridge on the turnpike road, and a few yards further there is a gate on the left hand side as we go towards Phila. Into that lane we went and about 300 yards brot us to the old home. Sad though we were to find that the old hip-roofed house was nearly all torn away last year and a more modern one erected. But we went into the old Kitchen, or rather into the present Kitchen, part of which is of the walls of the old house. The old spring house too is there where old great, gt., gt. gd. father and gt., gt., gt., gd. mother no doubt [did] much work. On the end of the present house the old date stone has been placed – 1739. Now this is 13 years after the gt., gt., gt. gd. father bought the property. So I presume that there was a small house in which they had lived, a log-affair probably, the 13 years and then built the hip-roofed one.

Leaving there we drove 2 miles further down the turnpike (formerly the "Middle Road" from New Hope to Phila.) to the Southampton Baptist Meeting House. In the grave yard adjoining, we found the graves of numerous Corsons and Dungans. Half an hour there and needed notes taken and we were off again. The day was cool, but when we went into the grave yard, the sun at 2 P.M. was hot and I did not take off my overcoat, and busily engaged as I was, I became greatly sweated. So that when again facing the wind in the carriage, I feared I should "take a bad cold."

Half a mile brought us to Southamptonville and to the house of Jacob Search and his wife who is the daughter of my Uncle Richard Corson and his wife Betsy Bennett. Cousin Nancy was at home, and Helen & self spent a few minutes with her. Thomas & Mary staid in the carriage. Off again and now for home. Stopped to see Dr. Carroll of Hatboro. [He was] not at home; spent a few minutes with his wife and off again. Three miles more, perhaps four, and a call at Cousin Tees', Uncle Joshua Corson's widow's daughter. A pleasant reception by her and her daughter Ellen; then away for home without another stop.

It is now 20th of 9 P.M. and I not at all tired, though in ten days I will reach my 87th birth-day. Now for bed, very thankful that I have borne the trip so well. But here is a letter from Dr. W. Stump Forwood, just from the P. office; will read it.

Have done so and now will paste it here that it may be read by those who look in here. "Bonne Nuit" (Good night).

September 30: Tuesday.

In the Huguenot Grave Yard at the White Bear in Addisville, or as it is now called, Richboro, there are six or seven rows of graves, viz.

- 1 = Kreuson's – Kroesen – Krosen
- 2 = Corsons
- 3 = Lefferts
- 4 = Bennetts
- 5 = Du-Bois
- 6 = Cornells

And one more I think. There are also a good many Vansants. There are also other names there but they are of those intermarried with the above or their descendants. The other family spoken of I now remember, 7 = Wynkoop.

These were the Huguenot families. In this yard I only took notes from a few headstones. 1st John Dungan. Died 1798, aged 45; 2nd Thomas Dungan. Died 1792, aged 43. They were not Huguenots, but were descendents from intermarriages with the Corsons.

In the yard in the Kreuson enclosure is 1) Sarah Dungan, widow of Thomas Dungan, died Sep. 29th, 1846, aged 85 years. This Thomas I think might have been [empty space].

Some Corsons in that yard. The oldest that I could find, though I scarcely took sufficient time, was Benjamin Corson, died 3rd mo. 19th, 1774, aged 55 years. He was not the first settler from Staten Island, but he came from there with his father when he was seven years of age, in 1726. It is plain that he was born in 1719. Now add 55 years to that and it makes his death come in 1774, as stated above.

I could not find the grave of his father. It may be down at the other little Huguenot church near the "Sorrel Horse Tavern."

The Benjamin named above was mar[ried] to Mary Sedam, or Maria Sedam. Her head stone reads thus: Mary Sedam (died) Feb. 15, 1792, aged 71 y, 3 mos., 4 days. The above about the age of Benjamin Corson is derived from the account, or tradition that he was 7 years old when he came from Staten Island with his father in 1826 [1726].

But a few years ago, a man named Sinks who was looking up an estate, due Bucks Co. people, and the Corsons among them, gave me a statement from the Baptismal Records (of Corsons). "Benjamin Corson (the same as noted above) was born in 1718 (not 19), married Maria Sedam, my Gt. Gd. Mother, Jan. 21st, 1742. Their children were Benjamin, my Gd. Father born March 6th, 1743; Ryck (Richard), Ap. 2nd, 1745, & others. [He] could give the entire family from the Baptismal Rocord" very truly H. B. Sinks.

In the Addisville Grave Yard. The last page has been taken up with the Benjamin who at 7 years of age came with his father to Bucks Co. & his wife Maria Sedam and their three children of whom the eldest, Benjamin, my gd. father mar[ried] Sarah, dau[ghter] of Joseph Dungan, whose tomb I found in the Southampton Church grave yard, thus Joseph Dungan (grand son of Rev'd Thomas Dungan who came from Rhode Island in 1684 and was buried at Cold Spring 1688), died 8th mo. 25th, 1775, aged 75 y. 6 mo. 25 days.

Mary Dungan (née Mary Ohl) died Ap. 25, 1788, aged 78, 2 mos. This was my Gt. Gd. Mother. She lived nearly three years longer than her husband, but if I count aright, they were both born in 1710, 2 mo. 25th day. These were my Gt. Gd. parents, for their daughter Sarah was married to Benjamin Corson 3rd and he was my father Joseph Corson's father. I found her grave, viz. "Sarah Corson, wife of Benjamin, (died) July 2nd, 1811," and also Benjamin Corson, died Oct. 2nd, 1811, aged 68 y. 7 Mo. 26 days. My gd. mother.

This Benjn. Corson had brothers besides my gd. father Benjamin. Viz. Esq. John who for a long time after the death of his father occupied the homestead which we visited yesterday and was well known Esquire John Corson. In the yard at Addisville, yesterday, I found the grave stones of himself, his wife Charity and several of their children who were all swept away in Jan. & Feb., 1823 by Typhoid Fever. I remember it well. One daughter, Mrs. Finney, some of whose family are living. She lies there.

Cornelius also was a son and brother to Esquire John. But though he had two sons, one of whom mar[ried] Mary Lentz of Whitemarsh and had one daughter Mary, now 1890, dead two years, has no descendants.

There was also Henry, I think. Henry Corson, a man who weighed 404 pounds it is said, died at the Falls of Schuylkill where he kept a Public House. He was father of Benjamin who was father of Amos, father of Sarah, now Sarah Van Court, wife of James Van Court, her first Cousin, living in Flourtown. There were also Abram and Jeanette, wife of John Kreuson.

Altogether, Benjn. (Gd. father)
Esq. John
Cornelius
Henry
Richard, called Ryck
Abraham

Mary, who mar[ried] Marple
Janette [Jeanette], mar[ried] John Kreuson.

Joseph & wife & son come on and bring with them in the train the body of dear little Mary, in a metallic coffin.

Jawood Lukens & Susan had a telegram from Joseph yesterday that they were in Chicago and would be at Broad St. Station at a specific time. Jawood, Robert R. Corson and wife took a train to meet them at Lancaster; did meet them and came to Phila. with them. Then they came up to Jaywood Lukens. I went down that evening and saw them all. Little Edward is a fine pleasant fellow, who was six years old last November, nearly seven now.

October 1: Wednesday.

They came up here, after being in Philad. yesterday, to tell me that they, Robt., Becky, Joseph & Susan had selected a lot in a beautiful place in "West Laurel Hill Cemetery" and that on Thursday at 3 P.M. the internment would take place, quite privately. Only his sisters & Robert and Rebecca were notified.

October 2: Thursday.

Dear little Mary's Funeral. The day has been wet since early morning. Immediately after dinner, I went to Jawood Lukens' and at 1:55 P.M. we took the train for West Laurel Hill, Joseph & Ada, Jawood and Susan, Thomas Yocom & myself. Found Frannie Day, my daughter, Robert Corson & wife and Tacie Cresson & her daughter Carrie at the Station. All went up and the grave was just being finished. The walls about 4 feet high from the bottom, was nicely white, washed and every thing had been well arranged. The metallic coffin was enclosed in a large wooden box that nicely filled the place between the two walls; then the whole was covered with flat stones which fitted well and then every crevice was cemented. We then all but two came to the station where we had an hour to waste for the next train. The two staid at the grave until all was filled up and completed.

At 3:55 we left for home, mine. I reached at 5 P.M. H.C. 8 P.M.

October 4: Saturday.

Joseph is here. Ada & son & Susan Lukens are in the City to purchase needed things for Ada & son, as they parted with every thing not needed for their trip of thousands of miles. In the afternoon we, Jos. & I went to Norristown on business. Home by 5 where we find Ada & her son Edward. A fine little fellow, busy, busy with something, books or play things, all the time. I have read a great deal of "The Diplomat Abroad," or to be exact, Diary of a Diplomat to Russia. It is an interesting book but shows too much the useless lascivious lives of the upper classes.

"Four Prose Tragedies by Henri[k] Ibsen." These were brot to me by Frannie, and I read them a few days ago. I have not for years read a novel before these and these are greatly objectionable. They seem designed to show the licentiousness of women. It is a horrible picture and has no counterpart in the Society, in American Society, high or low, I am sure. I will read no more of these kinds of works.

October 6: Monday.

Joseph has gone to Washington to "Report." A very rainy day, & I staid in-doors, reading & writing.

October 7: Tuesday.

In-doors most of the day. Went to Conshohocken to call on Susan & Ada, wrote letters, read a good deal of medicine and other things.

October 8: Wednesday.

My 87th Birth Day. The sun and myself rose together this morning, bright if not joyful. The sun seemed joyful that it had a chance to display itself, and I was glad to see it.

My dear, scarcely remembered mother this morning eighty-six years ago, could have had but a faint conception, if any, that the little child then born would go on to pass through a long life of 86 years of joy & sorrow and be today apparently as well as her grand children and great gd. children. Life is- I am interrupted by four letters being laid on the table before me, which must be attended to at once, so that the replies may go in the mail.

Dr. F. M. Murray, 165 N. 10th St. (suppose Phila.);

Dr. F. L. Green, Hallstead, Pa., Susquehanna Co.;

Dr. Stanley M. Ward, Scranton, Pa., 417 Adams Av.;

Dr. Wm. M. Hodges, M.D., Hamonton [Hammonton], N.J.;

Dr. U. O. Dutton, Jeddo, Luzerne Co., Pa.

Had two others yesterday.

They are all as answers to the following advertisement which I had inserted in the Reporter, in order to get a physician for Thos. C. M. McDowell of Port Walthall, Chesterfield Co., Va.

"Wanted"

"A Northern physician in an unusually desirable place in Virginia – Address
Editor of Medical & Surgical Reporter, Phila."

Such was the advertisement.

October 9: Thursday.

Started from home at 7 A.M. and went to Ambler in the carriage. Then at 8 ½ [by] cars for Bethlehem. Arrived at 10:30. Went to the College Hall, was introduced by Mr. Coppee to The Hon. George William Curtis and heard him [give his Founder's Day address at Lehigh University].

As already said on the other side, I was introduced by President Coppee to Hon. George William Curtis. I was very sorry my friend Dr. Lamberton was away at a resort for his health. It was to see him and have a talk with him about my mode of approaching the Legislature next winter against the present plan of having Superintendents for our hospitals for the Insane that inclined me to go up.

As I told Mr. Coppee that I was somewhat dull of hearing, he gave me a seat just to the right of the speaker, a little in advance of him and not ten feet away, and I could hear him quite well. As the ceremonies and lunch were over by one P.M., I took the cars at one 30 [1:30] P.M. and was home before sunset. After supper, then dark, Charles

Stout sent for me; he had been gored by his own enraged bull. It is 4 miles away but as he has been a great friend to me, Joseph & I went to him. Got home after 8 P.M. Went to bed at 9 P.M.

October 10: Friday.

6 ½ A.M. up. But now at 10 P.M., I write events of the day. From 6 ½ to 7, I wrote letters. At 7 went to breakfast. Joseph, Ada, Edward and Carrie Cresson and daughter Mary present. Just as I was helping the others, the palpitation struck me. I said nothing but took a large drink of cold, but not iced water, then went on eating. It is quite a singular thing that if I have it for hours, it does not affect my appetite, but tires my muscles which do the chewing.

After breakfast Joseph, wife, son and Mary went to Consho. I took 40 drops Tinct. Digitalis and laid down, but despite all I could do it held on. Sometimes I wrote or read, as it has often ceased when I became absorbed in that way. And then I had a most interesting book, "Woman's Place Today," by Lillie Devereux Blake, which criticizes the tyrannical Morgan Dix, Rector of N.Y. Trinity Church., as the old Tyrant deserves. But still the palp. went on till just half past 12 (noon), 5 ½ hours.

Joseph came home about 10 o'clock, and we did various things. He brought his wife & Mary home at 4 ½ P.[M.] and then he and I went 4 miles to see Charles Stout. Reached home at 6 ½ P.[M.] and now at 10 P.M., after a pleasant evening, am ready for bed.

October 11: Saturday.

Nothing unusual occurred.

October 12: Sunday.

Richard Day, Joseph & wife & Jay Lukens & wife [were] here in forenoon, also Bertie Yocom.

October 15: Wednesday.

Rose at six. Our woman was off to Girard College to see little Charley, her son. Joseph and his son were with us last night. Joseph & I had gone to see Charley Stout in the afternoon. He is improving. Carrie & Mary have the house work on hand today.

Bertha came up at 10 A.M. It is now 12 noon and I have just recovered from an attack of palp. which only lasted one half hour.

I did a deal of writing & reading yesterday, beside visiting Charley Stout, and doing many other things.

New Scheme.

There is much interest felt now in this scheme for "advanced culture." This article is by our poetic towns-woman Mrs. S. L. Oberholtzer of Norristown. Like other women that are prominent in reforms, she has persons to carp against her work, intimating that it is more for self than for the public good that she is active and a leader in reforms.

It is amazing to me how men of good standing in society, well educated, and kind and considerate in their treatment of women, still oppose her aspirations to an equality with man before the law. Even church members who prate about Christ and affect to do

onto others as they would others should do to them are not willing that she shall be one of the vestry or have a say in the affairs of the church. And men politicians who are willing that every man however depraved shall have a vote, are opposed to women having the same right. The best work I have ever done seems to me to be the securing for women their recognition by the Profession, and the law to authorize Trustees of Hospitals for the Insane to appoint women physicians to have charge of the insane of their sex.

October 19: Sunday.

Every day but one since last writing I have had two or three palpitations, but a large drink of cold water would generally take them off in from five to fifteen minutes. I have had one lasting nearly half an hour today.

October 20: Monday.

Rose at 6 o'clock. At 7 had breakfast. That over, sat at the table to write. In half an hour was struck with the palp. of the heart. It seems strange that this occurs every morning, if I sit at the desk and engage in writing. I will have to quit it. It was pretty violent and lasted about half an hour this morning.

Joseph left for Washington last Friday morning. Ada and the son will follow next Wednesday. (Did not go)

How pleasant would they be situated if dear Mary were living and well.

October 22: Wednesday.

Visit from Dr. Enos J. Blackwell of Cedarville, N. J., in the afternoon. Dr. B. is a reader of my papers in the Med. & Surg. Reporter and a writer for the same occasionally. We had a pleasant evening.

October 23: Thursday.

It was a very rainy day, cold east wind and rain. After dinner, despite the storm, I took him to the "Eastern Hospital," and though Dr. Bennett was away, we were taken all through the women's department and had a very interesting time. My object in having Dr. Blackwell to see it was to have him write on its management, and its control by Trustees and not as in the other hospitals by a superintendent.

He was greatly pleased, with the freedom from mechanical restraint, and the ever-varied employments in which hundreds of the patients were engaged.

October 24: Friday.

Visit in afternoon to Wm. H. and Mrs. Anna Holstein, with a purpose. Bought 5 of the Valley Forge publications. Went from there to see Samuel Tyson & wife. He has been sick; is now well. Then to see Dr. J. K. Reid, about a case of Rabies, which he had a few years ago. By this time it was 5 ½ P.M. and I had seven and a half miles between me and home. In one hour & 35 min. I was in my house.

October 25: Saturday.

Visited Charles Stout in forenoon. Home all afternoon, reading and writing on Hydrophobia. Letters from Dr. Aulde, Dr. Forwood, Dr. H. C. Wood, Dr. Alice Bennett, Gd. daughter Frannie Yocom.

Persons to be seen in Phila.:

- 1) Miss Jackson, Pine St. 1316 – Mary;
- 2) Emily P. Walton, 109 N. 9th – Phil;
- 3) Jane Woglom & Hannah Hickling;
- 4) Louisa Corson;
- 5) Dr. Aulde &
- 6) Dr. Thomas;
- 7) Gutegunst, [Gutekunst] Arch St. ab[ove] 7th – Portraits;
- 8) Write to Mayor Holstein for Livezey expected visits;
- 9) Dr. Bennett & lady doctor, tomorrow;
- 10) Dr. Dolley on Wednesday, 29th;
- 11) Dr. Bennett's reception, Wednesday;
- 12) Dr. Aulde's on Thursday, 30th;
- 13) Woman's Place today to Miss Forwood.

October 26: Sunday.

Dr. Shrawder was here last evening. Jawood & Susan, Ada & son and Frannie Yocom came at 11 A.M., soon after I had gotten rid of a two hours palpitation. They staid till noon and Frannie all day.

I got oil cloth, the small no. of the Lovell Series. Woman's Day. I want to send to Miss Forwood, Mrs. Tyson, Mrs. Holstein.

At 4 ½ P.M., more visitors, but I must defer an account of them for the present.

October 27: Monday.

Yesterday at 4 ½ P.M. Dr. Bennett & one of her assistants and two other ladies came in from Norristown. Dr. Bennett is very desirous that I shall come to her "Reception" at its very beginning and stay till it ends, five hours, and I fear it will be too much for me, but she gave so much time and money to give me a reception at the "Bellevue" in Phila. that I must do what I can for her.

Took Frannie Yocom to the train at 3 P.M., spent an hour at Jawood Lukens, then went to see poor old Daniel O. Hitner. Very poor he has become, after being rich and influential for many years.

All the evening until nearly ten o'clock re-wrote or corrected and extended my paper on Hydrophobia. No palp.

October 28: Tuesday.

Up at 6:25 A.M. Rainy, raining, will rain, has rained, intends to go on raining. 4 P.M. Have done nothing away from home. Wrote letters and read medicine. 8 P.M. went to Charles Stout's. He is about well now.

October 29: Wednesday.

This has been a very busy day, raining in the forenoon. At 2 P.M. went to Spring Mill station and met daughter Frannie C. Day, Louisa Foulke, Dr. Richard Foulke's wife and my gd. nephew Prof. Charles Sumner Dolley, M.D. of the University of Pa.

At 4 P.M., Dr. Dolley and myself went to the Eastern Hospital to a reception given by Dr. Alice Bennett to the Montgomery County Medical Society, from 4 till 9

P.M. Frannie Day came later with Mr. & Mrs. Hovenden and Louisa, and our daughter Mary staid at home. I met there my dear friend Dr. Traill Green and Prof. Joseph Leidy and Drs. Harrison Allen, John B. Roberts and a host of other doctors, male and female. Got home from the reception at 9 ½ P.M. Had a very pleasant time.

October 30: Thursday.

Took Frannie, Louisa & Dr. Dolley to Sp. Mill to the train, so they could take the 8:11 train there. At 2:30 brot Dr. Aulde from Sp. Mill train. Had a brisk talk on his theories of the proper mode of practice medicine and had him back at Sp. Mill to take the 5 P.M. train for Phila.

After supper had palp. 2 hours.

October 31: Friday.

Awoke with palp. at 2 A.M.; also had Diarrhoea. Lasted half hour. At 4 had it 15 minutes; at 5 ½ 10 minutes. It is discouraging. At 7 got up, took 25 drops Tinct. Digitalis & 2 gr. Quinine. Ate but little breakfast. Engaged until 10 o'clock in examining & correcting family record.

November 1: Saturday.

I have forgotten to write that early last Thursday morning, I took Mary down to Jawood Lukens to see Ada and little Edward start for Washington where Joseph was awaiting them in their new home at the "Post." We went with them to the cars, as did Susan, and saw them off. They are nicely fixed now, if they only had little Mary with them.

Saturday afternoon. Dr. E. M. Corson came down here by appointment with me to go to remove a sebaceous tumor from Charles Stout's back. Home by 5 P.M. I wrote much in the evening. No palp. since Friday morning.

On Friday afternoon I took Tacie with me to Wm. H. Holstein and had a brief visit with Mr. & Mrs. Holstein.

November 2: Sunday.

Wrote steadily on my hydrophobia paper until Jay & Susan came at 10 o'clock. Then went to Friends Meeting with Jaywood. Two sermons, one by Alfred Love, another by Lukens Webster.

In [the] afternoon went there to a Peace Meeting in which the same persons spoke, and they were so anxious that I should speak that I made a few remarks.

November 3: Monday.

Finished my Hydrophobia paper, 22 pages of foolscap. I sent little Jim Cunningham to the store for a few sheets. He came back with it and told our cook that the storekeeper smiles when he asked him for "foolish-cap paper."

November 4: Tuesday.

Election Day. Went to see Charles Stout in forenoon, to election in afternoon. There has been an exciting time for two months. Many Republicans are so opposed to Quay, the Republican Senator who has bossed the party for many years, and who forced

Delameter on them as a candidate for Governor instead of Genl. Hastings who was the manager at Johnstown after the disastrous flood, that there are great fears that the Republican party will be defeated in the State.

November 5: Wednesday.

The Republicans are said to be defeated. Went to Norristown after dinner. Republicans greatly depressed; Pattison, Democrat, said to be elected, and but a few Democrats defeated in our County, for the County offices.

November 8: Saturday.

The excitement of the Election has calmed. Delameter has been defeated for the Governorship, while the Lieut. Governor Watres (Republican) is elected. It was a change of about 60,000 Republicans since Beaver was elected Governor. The people were so disgusted with the "Bossism" of Quay who overrode the wishes of the people and forced the Convention to nominate Delameter, instead of Genl. Hastings, and of Quay's bad character, that they defeated his man, and with him went Wanger, the Republican candidate for Congress., a Quay concern too. Nearly our whole County ticket failed. We got no Senator and only one out of five Representatives.

This morning I rose early & took the cars at 8:54 A.M. for Phila. at Sp. Mill. Went to Dr. Thos. J. Morton and had a few minutes with him. Then [went] to Historical Society's Rooms, examined the records of the Episcopal Church as set forth in quite a large Quarto vol., just issued, containing a history of the Episcopal Church or the "Gloria Dei," the "Old Swede Church at Kingsessing," which embraces a history of all its subordinate churches.

Afterwards examined records of "Friends Radnor Monthly Meeting," which embraces the doings of that Meeting in relation to all "Friends Meetings" in our County. Found that in 1702 Radnor Monthly Meeting considered the wishes of Plymouth Friends. "The Quarterly Meeting approved that Friends at Plymouth continue their First Day meetings (This in 1703). The Quarterly Meeting approved the meeting as proposed." That was in 1703. But I should first have written what was done in 1702 as follows: In 1702 Friends about Plymouth on the other side of Schuylkill (It is Radnor Monthly Meeting which speaks) prepare to have a meeting on First Day at Hugh Jones' and a weekly meeting the fifth Day to be kept by Course at David Williams', at Hugh too, if Quarterly Meeting approve.

1714, 10th Mo., 9th Day. At Monthly Meeting at Radnor it is left for further consideration what time to appoint Monthly Meetings of Gwynedd and Plymouth.

After taking these notes, I went to Phila. Bank and got a dividend of \$36, then to Security & Trust Co., 703 Chestnut St. and got 12 dols. 50cts. int[erest]. Then went to 752 N. 6th St. to see my old Friend Jane Woglom who was a fine young lady when I boarded with her mother 64 years ago, the winters of 1826-27, 1827-8 while at Lectures. She has been very sick. "The Doctor" says she has Organic Disease of Heart. I can't see anything the matter with it. She is pretty smart now.

Left there at 1 P.M., went straight as I could to James Yocom at 2040 Vine, 17 squares. There daughter Bertha had dinner for me, and at 3:34 I took the cars for home. Got home 20 minutes after 4 P.M. Went at once to Charles Stout's four miles away to see him and his sister. While eating supper at home at 7 P.M. was struck with palp.

which cont'd. nearly two hours. Went to bed after it went off. Had it again for a short time at 12 midnight. Afterward was easy but awake till almost day-light. Part of the above written on Sunday evening.

November 9: Sunday.

I went early to Charles Stout's to see his sister. It will seem queer to any one who knows that I quit "Practice" 3 years ago nearly that I am still at it. This is an exceptional case. She was crazy a few years ago, and so Dr. Bennett wishes me to be her physician, as I have long attended her.

After coming from Stout's, found Jaywood Lukens and Susan, Bertha Yocom and her sons Thomas, a 20 year old, James a 4 year old, and Dorothea a 10 year old, here. Had a pleasant day. At 4 P.M. took Bertha and children to the station at Sp. Mill.

November 14: Friday.

Attended some business at home & Conshohocken & visited Miss Stout.

November 15: Saturday.

Nearly a week to record. Monday, 10th, nothing unusual to record. Tuesday at 9 A.M. started for Darlington, Maryland. Took the train to Broad Street at 10 A.M., then to 2040 Vine St., Bertha's home. Dined and then went to Wannamaker's great store for gloves & overshoes. At 2:02 P.M. took the train for Perryville on the Susquehanna. At 4 P.M. [took] the train up the river to Conowingo, granddaughter Frannie Yocom with me. Reached there at 4:28. Dr. W. Stump Forwood was in waiting with a carriage and took us across the river and 3 ½ miles through the country to Darlington where we arrived at 5:50 P.M. as the darkness was closing in upon us. Very rainy, until we got to Conowingo. Still very cloudy & misty Wednesday.

Dr. Forwood & daughter took us to see his blind aunt who lives on the old farm of the "Grandfather Stump" where Dr. Forwood was born and raised. It is a grand old place in a beautiful tract of 150 acres of fine arable land.

The old blind aunt was delighted to have me there as she had been a scholar at Hannah Williams School more than sixty years ago. Old Mr. Stump who then lived in the house had six daughters and, strange to say, four of them were educated at Hannah Williams' boarding school at Plymouth Meeting. The old lady plied me with one question after another until I had told her of all the Albertsons, Maulsbys, Livezeys, Comforts, &c., &c. and above all, her beloved Rebecca Tyson. It was a pleasant visit, but sad that of all the persons whom she knew here, only one, Phebe Roberts, daughter of Hannah Williams, still lives. We spent nearly two hours there, then returned and as we neared Darlington, stopped to see another aunt of Dr. Forwood, Mrs. Jackson. The other was Mrs. Ramsay. Mrs. Jackson was one of the six sisters, but was not at school at Hannah Williams. She was delighted to see me as she had heard Dr. F. speak of me so often and so highly, and she knew that I had him with me at Atlantic City last summer, and at Valley Forge.

The afternoon we spent together at his home. The daughters & Frannie Yocom rode out to see some Gypsies.

Thursday, at 9 A.M., we started for Conowingo to take the train at 10:12 for Phila.

to daughter Bertha's to dinner, got to Conshohocken at 4:50, home at 5 1/2, well pleased with our trip.

On reaching home found 8 letters and some pamphlets awaiting me, and also intelligence of the death of my friend, Dr. Richard J. Levis, formerly of Phila. but lately residing at Cedarcroft, the former home of [empty space] Taylor, the Poet. [He was] only three days sick, sacrificed to the attempt to cure pneumonia by the use of arterial sedatives, as Atropia, verat. viridii, Digitalis, &c., &c., without vs. [blood-letting]. Dr. Gross, Sen., Dr. Henry H. Smith and now Dr. Levis, all eminent men, sacrificed within a few months.

[This] Saturday went early to Phila. Called to see Miss Mary Jackson, daughter of my old friend Dr. Samuel Jackson of Northumberland, living [at] 1316 Pine St. "Not home." Then went to Henry Jones', 1410 Pine St. "Not at home." Then went to Dr. Goodell's & left my card. From there to Robert R. Corson's and Sister Rebecca. [She] gave me a nice lunch. Then took a paper on Hydrophobia to Editor Dr. Dulles for publication in Medical & Surgical Reporter. Then at 1 P.M. to the funeral of Dr. Richard J. Levis. There I met many doctors whom I knew. It was quite a solemn time. After the services, the friends were told that "the Internment would be private." So we left, and I went up 19th St. about 22 squares to Diamond St. and just above that St., in "Uber Place" 23 found Mrs. Corson, widow of cousin Amos Corson, in the home of her daughter Mrs. Rebecca Corson Carr, wife of George Carr, a lawyer. Had a pleasant hour with her, then made for home.

Mary was awaiting me at Spring Mill and we were soon home, and I have had a good supper, good for I was hungry.

November 17: Monday.

Today in a letter from my friend Dr. Forwood I was informed of the sudden death of our mutual friend Dr. Quinan, the Historian of Baltimore. Dr. Forwood and myself talked much about him when I was at his house last week, at the very time that he died. He was a fine man, profound student and learned physician. How my friends younger than myself have dropped off during the present year!

November 19: Wednesday.

Death of my niece, Mrs. Lillie Miles, formerly Miss Lillie Bacon (daughter of Franklin and Hannah Bacon, née Foulke & gd. daughter of Edward and Tacie Foulke, parents of my wife Nancy Corson, née Foulke).

She died yesterday at Rosemont, Del. Co. and will be buried today, at Laurel Hill. Buried so soon because she died, it is said of Diphtheria, and the Boarding House Keeper's boarders were not willing to run the risk. Pshaw!

Internment was private. This was a sacrifice to specialism [sic], a Throat Doctor. What does such a man know about disease? Graduate though he may be. No specialist should be allowed to practice medicine. Up to within 36 hours of her death, he thought this was a Tonsillitis. Then a consultant said it was Diphtheria, and the poor girl died the next day.

November 20: Thursday.

A letter from my friend Dr. Forwood has brought me an account of a fall down a

long stairway by the good, old Aunt Mrs. Ramsay, his aunt whom I visited when in Md.; she was severely injured, shoulder dislocated, ankle broken, &c.

November 22: Saturday.

At 9:10 A.M. left Spring Mill for Phila. Went down Vine to 4th, down 4th to 119 South to Robert R. Corson's office. Nephew Edward Wister [sic] went with me to the Lombard Investment Co. where I got \$15 interest. Then I went alone to 138 S. 4th to Beaver Branch Coal Co. and got 3cts. per share on more than 700 shares = \$23. Then [I went] up to 1119 Walnut to see Harriet M. Foulke who has had an epithelioma, a cancer, cut from the side of the nose; then [went] to see Miss Mary Jackson, 1316 Pine St, daughter of my old friend Dr. Jones & wife; took lunch with them and had a pleasant hour and an half in "progressive" talk; then to see Cousin Mahlon H. Dickinson, President of the Board of Public Charities and U.S. Commissioner on Immigration. Spent half an hour with him. Then went to daughter Bertha Yocom's, 2040 Vine St. None home but young Bertha and little James, only 4 years or thereabouts. Then Home from 9th & Green at 4:45. [Was] home at 5:45; found all right.

November 23: Sunday.

Was reading Friends Intelligencer & other books, and writing in my diary until Jawood & Susan came at 10 o'clock, then entertained them till noon. At 2 ½ P.M. Jawood came and took me to Howard M. Jenkins at Gwynedd, about 200 yards back of the Meeting House. Spent an hour there talking about genealogies, then returned getting home after dark had set in.

It was very windy, sharp, cold, though the Therm. was above freezing. It was a risky thing to do as he had no side curtains.

November 24: Monday.

Slept pretty well. No bad result from my exposed ride yesterday, save a slight renewal of pain in my left shoulder which had left me for a week or more.

November 25: Tuesday.

Daughter Frannie Day came at 2:45 to Sp. Mill and Mary & self brot her up. She spent the day until 3 ½ P.M. Percy Corson's wife was here a short time with her.

When I was with Mahlon H. Dickinson two days ago, he gave me a roll of manuscript on the "Genealogy of the Dickinson Family" prepared by Mr. Wharton Dickinson and for which he, Wharton, wants me to give him twenty Dollars for a copy. As Mahlon has loaned me his copy, I can make one from it.

November 26: Wednesday.

Mary's birth-day, also the birth-day of our "Woman" in the Kitchen.

In the evening Helen Hovenden took Mary to a "Tea" at Dr. Lewis W. Read's, from 5 to 7 P.M. They had a nice time; crowds of ladies there. The caterer with his color'd helps from Phila. provided a grand repast.

November 27: Thursday.

Thanksgiving Day. Had palp. 4 times last night, only a few minutes at a time

though. Today had palp. from noon till 4 P.M. Have written a great deal this evening, letters & genealogy of the Jones Family that mother-in-law Foulke belongs to.

December 1: Monday.

Yesterday, niece Annie Bacon & her husband, Mr. Neff, were here to dinner, and in the afternoon we went to Hovenden's to see his paintings, particularly, "Leaving Home." They left before 4 P.M. for their home at Beverly, N.J.

On Saturday last I had palpitation for 4 hours. Latterly they have lasted but a few minutes. I had begun to think I would soon be visited by it no more. Had nothing of it yesterday. But today, it came on me at dinner time, immediately after I had eaten. At two P.M. it was still on me. But I had business in Norristown, so got Mary with me in the carriage and went there, did several matters and just as I was leaving Dr. E. M. C.'s office, it left me.

December 2: Tuesday.

Sunday was one of the most delightful Indian Summer days. Yesterday afternoon as we came from Norristown, it was snowing from the N. E. and at bed-time was still at it, and was cold.

This morning the ground was well covered with it, but nothing more, and the Therm. was at 10° F. It is "Mother's Day" at Girard College, & our woman, Mrs. Haigh [Haight] always goes on that day to see her son Charley. As I wished to see daughter Susan Lukens, I took the woman to the 9 A.M. train. In a quarter of an hour after I left her at Spring Mill, palp. struck me, and now as I write at 4 P.M., it is still on me. I have been "up and down" many times, have read and wrote a good deal. Have replied to four letters rec'd., &c., but still am very uncomfortable.

10 P.M. The palpitation went off at half past four P.M. In a few minutes I had the carriage brought up and I was off for Norristown to get Mary's instrument & shoes left to be mended yesterday. At 6 P.M. I was at home again, wrote several letters and am now ready for bed.

December 3: Wednesday.

Snow all day, lightly; cold, 22° F. Did not go out very much; wrote a good many letters. The fair for the benefit of the new Charity Hospital in Norristown [is] going on now.

December 4: Thursday.

Rec'd. several letters, one from Joseph announcing the paralysis [of] Surgeon General, Dr. Baxter. It was a heavy blow, quite unconscious, heavily paralyzed on one side.

Snow has at sunset nearly gone.

Congress in session. Heavy failures of firm after firm announced daily almost. Wharton Barker Co., hundred of thousands; John R. Baker Co., with charges of forgeries; Rittenhouse Co., for a million; all within a little longer than a week.

No Country Doctor "failing," save failing to grow rich. Nine P.M. No palp. since Tuesday at 4 ½ P.M.

December 5: Friday.

At a good many things today; have written the first five pages of the Preface to the Corson Genealogy this evening since supper. No palpitation today.

December 6: Saturday.

Went at 9 ½ A.M. to the Sp. Mill station R. R. Road. At 10:12 took the train; at 11 A.M. was at [the] office of R. R. Corson and Edward Wister [sic] at 119 S. 4th St. 10 minutes later was in room 743 Drexel Building, had an hour's rapid confab with our new Senator, Dr. A. D. Markley, in relation to our Hospitals for the Insane. Gave him a history of them, laws by which they are managed, difference between the one at Norristown and the four others which are managed by Superintendents, while Norristown is exclusively under control of the Trustees. He is to manage my "Bills" for a change in the laws, so that the Superintendents shall be subordinate to the Trustees and have no duties save medical ones. From him I went to Dr. Aulde's, 1910 Arch St., to meet Dr. Sabal, my friend from Florida, who is poorly and Dr. Aulde & himself wished me to be in Council with them in his case. He has insomnia to a great degree. Lunched with them and after a long pleasant consultation, left at 2:30 for the 9th & Green St. Station. Was just in time to reach it; was at home at 4 P.M. At 8:35 P.M., after two hours of steady reading, was attacked by palpitation, and now as I write still have it. It lasted nearly two hours.

December 7: Sunday.

Slept none till 2 A.M. Had a palp. for 10 minutes about 11 P.M. last night. Had a very poor night.

December 8: Monday.

9 P.M. Did not go out much today; read a good deal and have written for nearly three hours this evening on the genealogical record of our family, for the printer. It is a heavy work but very comfortable to me. Wrote three letters also, to Harriet Foulke, Miss Forwood, Jos. K. Corson, Bertie Yocom.

December 9: Tuesday.

Rose early. Read till 9 A.M. Rode to the Post Office. There found a note from Dr. Mary Dixon Jones, the great woman surgeon of the Brooklyn Hospital, saying that she would be at Conshohocken at 10:53. Went straight for her. Stopped at daughter Susan's a while, then went and got a package of 100 pamphlets, copies of my paper on Hydrophobia, published in last weeks, no week before, Med. and Surg. Reporter. Then [went] to the station and met Dr. Mary Jones, took her to Susan's for a few minutes, then home. Had dinner, then [went] to Eastern Hospital. Dr. Bennett had gone to the City. We were taken through the wards and "Infirmary" and to see the dining room where nearly 600 dine together. As Dr. Jones wished to return to Media this evening, we left there in time to reach the Pa. cars at Norristown for Phila. at 5:09 P.M., which she went in, and I made for home.

She had come on purpose to see "one, of whom she had heard so much, as the man who had procured the Recognition of women physicians by the profession and had also procured the Law to authorize Trustees of hospitals for Insane females to appoint

women doctors to have the medical management of them.” She was anxious to hear from my own lips all about how and why I originated the battle and kept it up so long, and succeeded so grandly. She was wonderfully interested and plied me with hosts of questions. She also gave me an account of her labors, and the opposition encountered at every step of her struggles to found the “Brooklyn Hospital for women.”

December 11: Thursday.

9 P.M. I was busy yesterday but nothing of extra moment took place. Went to see Dr. Oscar Leedom, who has been sick three days, and who had sent for me; then [went] to Norristown and did several things.

Today I went early to Consho. & over the river with Dr. Highley by his request to see one of his patients. After dinner at 3:05 took train at Sp. Mill to call on Uncle Joshua Corson’s gd. daughter. A pleasant, agreeable woman living at 825 N. 7th St.; then to see Doctor Saml. Wolfe and Dr. J. M. Anders, neither of them at home; then to Henry Streeper’s, 1735 N. 9th, to get am’t of Bill owing me for many years. Home at 6:10 P.M.

December 18: Thursday.

It is a week since I last wrote, so busy have I been with my genealogical Records of all my lines of Ancestry that I was not aware that so much time had passed without a line here.

I have surely had about 30 or more letters and have replied to every one, and written some more. I am offered about 16,500 Dols. for my Main St. house in Norristown, but as I ask for \$20,000 and don’t like to part with it, shall probably not sell, but it gives me uneasiness.

I am writing badly; will go more slowly & hope will do better.

I have sent copies of my Hydrophobia paper to several country editors and they are commenting on it, favorably too.

Am nearly done on the Dickinson paper; a great record it is.

December 20: Saturday.

Went to Consho. at 9 A.M. to pay tax, from there to Spring Mill to meet grand daughters Bertie Yocom and Bertie Day, Bertie Day’s mother, daughter Frannie and Katharine Forwood, daughter of my Maryland friend Dr. W. Stump Forwood of Darlington. They were all there at 11 A.M. After dinner I took Miss Forwood to Plymouth Meeting Village to see where her grand mother Forwood, born née, went to school 70 years ago. Then took a short ride, all the girls along, and when [we] returned, took daughter Frannie to Sp. Mill on her way home.

December 21: Sunday.

We had in addition to those of yesterday, Carrie Cresson, James Cresson and Charles Edward Foulke to dinner. Jawood Lukens & Susan were also here until noon from 10 A.M.

The young folks enjoyed themselves very well. The two Norristowners left at 4 P.M.

December 22: Monday.

Miss Forwood and the two Berthas were called at 6 A.M. At 7 we had breakfast. At 8 I had them at Sp. Mill station. At 8:10 they bid me good by and were off for Philadelphia, feeling, I think that they had had a pleasant time. The Berties had to go from the Broad St. Station to the school room, and Miss Forwood to her Cousin's in Diamond St.

December 23: Tuesday.

Last night at 3 A.M. I was attacked by the palp. It lasted one hour. I was up early and pretty well. Went to Norristown to do business of several kinds, returning at 11 ½. I had a palp. the last two miles, and for nearly an hour getting home, then again at 5 ½ for 20 minutes. It is becoming alarming, but I go on at my work of many kinds. Though I have recorded three palpitations in this day, there came still another at 8 ½ P.M., which lasted one hour. I think they were due to my being in a dyspeptic condition with diarrhoea, not bad, but light sickening pains and looseness of the bowels.

December 24: Wednesday.

Slept well after the palp. disappeared until one A.M.; then felt sick and restless & had a movement of the bowels, took 1/16 of a gr. of Sulph. Morph. Rested tolerably well until 6 A.M.; rose at seven, not feeling well; attribute it to the bowel disturbance although that is not great. Took almost no breakfast. Took of my Janey's mixture a small dose.

The mail came. Several letters. Well wishes and Christmas greetings from Warren Poley and wife and a present of a years subscription to the "North American Review" from them.

Palp. struck me at this time. A rapid swallowing of a tumbler of cold water took it off. Wrote to Frannie, to Joseph, to Warren Poley, and sent several pamphlets of my Hydrophobia article. [I was] a good deal exhausted by 11 A.M., so laid on the lounge warmly covered till dinner was announced. Could eat but very little. Am engaged to be at Plymouth School at two o'clock to witness exercises there. "Half suspect" the Teacher, Mrs. Livezey wishes "an address," "a few words to the children." I know how it is. I do not feel able to go and speak, but will see when the time comes, one P.M.

5 P.M. I went to the school, but the exercise had just closed. There were only five grown persons there, but a good array of scholars, some almost young ladies. I gave a few reminiscences of school days in this same place seventy-five years ago.

December 25: Thursday.

Christmas Day 10 P.M. I wrote nothing for yesterday last evening, but will do it now. I was quite poorly; had palp. twice and a good deal of nausea, heartburn & looseness of bowels, which made me feel poorly. Had not slept well the previous night.

This Christmas morning [I] felt pretty miserable and quite certain that I could not take dinner with Frannie & Richard Day, though invited to be there to meet his mother and his brother Frank. As the day was a delightful one, bright & not very cold, after getting the mail, Mary and myself at 10 A.M. started for Germantown. We met the folks, had a pleasant time, a good dinner, & at 3 P.M. left for home; reached home safely before 5 P.M.

Had a palpitation of 15 minutes in the evening. Got many letters this morning and sent a few and also several copies of my "Hydrophobia" paper.

December 26: Friday.

A great snow storm. Began in the night [and] is furious this morning. Shall stay in-doors.

9 P.M. The storm has cont'd. all day, snow about four inches here.

December 27: Saturday.

Reports from the whole country of travel impeded. Snow five to 10 feet deep at Pittsburgh; great destruction on the Atlantic border, in N. Jersey, &c., &c.

The murder of the great Indian Sioux Chief Sitting Bull. There has been much trouble feared on account of the Indians assembling in great numbers and practicing the "Ghost Dance" for many weeks.

Finally a few days ago, some renegade Indians, renegades who affect to act as an Indian Police [and] who are armed by our Government, sought him at his home and killed him. He does not seem, as far as we have yet learned, that he did anything to justify his murder. I may cut some scraps from the newspapers which will show the manner of his murder.

For the present I pin here an eloquent tribute to the fallen hero from the pen of Adirondack Murray. I think he was once a Mass. minister named Rev'd. W. W. H. Murray.

December 31: Wednesday.

7 P.M. For the past three days we have had the ground covered with snow, and quite good sleighing for the past two days.

I have had short spells of palpitation every day since last writing. In every spell I drank cold water quickly and the palp. went off in all the cases but one in a few minutes; once it held on for two hours.

Was at Norristown yesterday with Helen in the sleigh. Dr. E. M. Corson asked me to see Mr. Alfred Hirst, the fine, old man who has lived in "Uncle William's house" on Main St. for full 40 years. Wm. lived with them until he died. It was plain to us all that Mr. H. would not live but a few hours. The papers announced his death this morning

My friend Mr. Alfred Hirst, dead. He was a most pleasant, old gentleman. He had a noble, good wife who died several years ago. Brother William lived with [them] during nearly all their married lives, was very fond of them and was very generous towards them. They lived in his house on easy terms, and when the house became mine by William's failure and my purchase of it, they and he went on just the same. They had four fine looking daughters, two of whom married lawyers, and two doctors. Judge Yerkes, Senator Brown, Hon. George N. Corson, and Dr. Lewis Wernwag Read, Surgeon General of the State of Pennsylvania. It is seldom that four girls of one family, and as here not a rich family, should marry such distinguished men.

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January 3: Saturday.

"Aunt Harriet Foulke" came yesterday to be with us a while. This day has not been remarkable for any thing new. I went early to Norristown to do some business with John J. Corson, then [went] to the "New Hospital" which is finished and as a very fine building. Home by one P.M. Rec'd. some [letters] and wrote a good deal. Collected some money & [was] home by dark.

January 7: Wednesday.

There has been nothing specially worth recording. The weather has been quite cold and people are gathering ice all around here. Last winter was the first in at least forty years that I missed it, and as we got along well without much expense by getting the good fresh water ice from the Conshohocken "Ice man," I will not go to the trouble and expense of putting any in the ice-house. Have heard from all the children as usual, by letters. Have had a few palpitations, &c., &c.

Brought Frannie from the train at 9:45 A.M. It is now only 2 P.M. and I have had four spells of palpitation, one before breakfast, another at 9:30, just as I was starting for Frannie; a third at 10 ½ while on the road to visit Henry Schlater's wife, three miles away, and one a few minutes ago. Not one of them lasted more than 10 or 15 minutes, but yet were quite uncomfortable.

January 11: Sunday.

I have pasted here a sermon by a Presbyterian Minister, which has created quite a sensation among the members who for many years have had a red-hot minister of the Calvinistic type, feeding them with his fearful doctrines. Now, Jan. 9th, there appears in the Press a severe denunciation of it from a member. What the outcome will be, we may see later.

I have promised that tomorrow I will, if I hear from my children, give an answer to a syndicate that wants me to take \$18,000 for my Norristown Main St. house. As I have not heard from all the children, so if he should come up, I have written to John J. Corson, "that for myself I will not at present take it, that I am sorry he should be put to expense, therefore please hand him the price of an excursion ticket, and tell him that when I shall have heard from the children and from Ellwood, I will give positive answer through thee. For myself I do not want to sell. It seems like breaking the bond which has so long connected me with my Brother William, that I can't bear to do it. Whenever I go to Norristown the sight of it brings up memories of scenes and incidents which we greatly enjoyed during the past fifty years. While it remains, these memories will be bright and strong. I have slept poorly the past two nights, through fear that if I sell it, even for a large price, I may be unhappy about it afterwards. All this may seem very foolish to thee, but it will give me sorrow to part with it, though it is a loss financially to keep it. Affectionately

Thy Uncle Hiram Corson

To John J. Corson

Jan. 11th, 1891"

Evening. I have written a long article for "The Phila. Press" in relation to our Insane Poor today, and so much else that the whole day has been used up. Whether the Press will accept it, it being nearly nine pages of fools-cap, is a question.

It has been a rainy day and I have scarcely been out of the house.

January 15: Thursday.

I have had but little of much interest for several days to occupy me, save negotiating for the sale of the Main St. House.

Yesterday I attended the funeral of my friend Dr. Gorman [P.] Sargent of Bryn Mawr, who died after a very brief illness. He was a fine man, in the prime of life. On Tuesday our Medical Society had a special meeting called to take some measures in relation to attending his funeral, and I was appointed chairman of a Committee of four to prepare a memoir of him to be read at our annual meeting next week.

I have a very bad cold.

January 21: Wednesday.

I was shocked this morning by being told that my friend Col. Bean committed suicide yesterday. He was an excellent man. He had become pretty heavy in debt, but so far as we have yet learned, was not guilty of any fraudulent conduct in monied matters. I boarded with his dear mother & father in Phila. while at school 64 years ago. She was a dear woman, died only a year or two ago in Norristown. The Colonel conducted my Bill for reform in management of Hospitals for the Insane at last session of the Legislature. He will be buried on Friday, 23rd.

Joseph sent the above to me in a letter from Washington a few days ago. Did he think it applicable to me? If so, it was complimentary. The old fellow's deficiency in music resembled mine but he was better I guess on his one tune than I on mine. H.C.

Editor's note: The reference was to a poem printed in the Chicago News, "Father's Way [To Wilson Barrett]" by Eugene Field.

Death of Daniel O. Hitner on Jan. 21st. I have known him from his earliest boyhood as he was 10 years younger than myself. Forty years ago he was the rich man of the neighborhood, almost of the County, largely engaged in digging marble on his own properties, and making Iron in three furnaces at Spring Mill. His brother Henry and James Cresson were all in the Iron part of his business, were all considered rich, and all had much influence, because of the many persons in their employ. Henry failed many years ago. His splendid farm, the Father's homestead and every thing else sold by the Sheriff. Mr. Cresson died before his property was entirely gone. And now Daniel is deceased and leaves no estate, but creditors unpaid. And children quarreling and pretty poor. He was in many respects a clever man, but ignorant, with an ignorant profane wife and sons & daughters.

January 23: Friday.

The funeral will take place Saturday, tomorrow at noon, buried in Barren Hill Church grave yard.

Frannie Day was here since 11 A.M. till 4 P.M. Had a pleasant visit from her. She is a lively but earnest woman of much progress, as progress is regarded now. Ethical culture, University Extension Teaching, Herbert Spencer and other advanced teachers give her much food for reflection and new ideas of Religion and the Bible traditions. She is "awake" to the present awakenings, in Science and Morality, and sees true religion in them.

Death of Cousin Sarah Corson Phipps. She was daughter of my Uncle Thomas Corson and Elizabeth Marple who was his first Cousin, who resided in the Chester County Great Valley, 10 miles from Norristown. Jan. 20th I rec'd. the following notice, "Died at Frazer on First-day the 18th of the first month Sarah H. Phipps. Thyself and family are invited to attend her funeral on Fifth Day the 22 instant, to leave the house at one o'clock P.M. Internment at Uwchlan Friends Burying ground. Carriages will meet the trains at Frazer station."

My niece Helen Corson Hovenden and myself were on a visit to her a few months since. She lived near to Frazer Station on the Pa. R. Road to Pittsburgh in Chester Co., in the large fine house, once the celebrated "Genl. Wayne Hotel." There too she died.

Yesterday morning was very stormy but not cold. I rose early, dressed to go. Went to see if Helen would go along. She could not, and so I concluded not to go as it was so very rainy. Took off my best clothes and went to see a patient in Conshohocken, Davis Stemple, an old friend. I had my long closed, well covered carriage and the man to drive. At Consho. I concluded to go to Frazer, so the man took me to the Radnor Station and at 11 ½ A.M. I was there. The family was at dinner, and I was invited to sit with them at [the] table and had a moderate lunch. There were very few people there, the day being so very stormy. Her daughters & their families were all present. At one P.M. six double carriages moved away after the hearse containing the last but one of Uncle Thomas Corson's children, and I the only one of Joseph Corson's children now living was the only person, only relative, at the funeral, save her own children, their husbands & children.

January 24: Saturday.

D. O. Hitner was buried today. No great demonstration. A goodly number of men [were] there. I attended at the House, met a number of old friends, was myself older than any other person there.

January 27: Tuesday.

At 10 A.M. I attended the funeral of Davis Stemple of Conshohocken. Joel Lare [Lair] preached at the House. He was buried at the Trapee [Trappe] but I, of course, did not go there. I attended his family for many years. He accumulated a good deal of money but was a close, penurious man holding no prominent place in Society.

January 31: Saturday.

9 P.M. I must record here five days, as busy ones as I have had for many years. From morning till night, I have been on the [go], three times this week in the City, more times in Norristown, twice at the Hospital for Insane, over at Ft. Washington two days and through Flower Town hunting for suitable woman to act as School-Directors. Have secured two who are willing to serve. Fear they will be defeated by the political line

workers, one is a Democrat, one a Republican. Also attended funerals of Davis Stemple and Samuel Steeper, old friends. Have been twice to see members of Board of Public Charities and Com. on Lunacy.

Have written and received many letters. We failed, but they had 189 votes.

Death of Samuel Steeper, Jan. ----- He was an early friend of mine. Ever since he was of adult age, I have known him well, a clever, honest man. But though so, his creamery neighbors, only a few years ago, became dissatisfied with him about their business and censured him, and no doubt made him feel badly. He was buried Wednesday (Jan. 28) at noon at Barren Hill Grave Yard. The Steepers have a good, big corner to themselves. I attended the funeral at the church.

A Days Work...Jan. 26th, which was last Monday, I left Spring Mill in the 8:45 train from Norristown for Broad & Chestnut, Philad. Was there at 25 after 9, called at 1312 Filbert St. to see Mary Greer, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Burleigh. Spent half an hour with them, then went to the 7th story of the "Drexel Building," corner of 5th & Chestnut, then to Gutekuntz [photographer Frederic Gutekunst] in Arch above 7th, then to Broad & Market to Pa. R.R. Road depot where I found our Senator Dr. A. D. Markley, whom I missed at the Drexel Building. After a talk with him about the "Bill," which he is to manage for me in the Legislature, I took Traction Cars to West Philad. and to the University of Pa. There in the Hall I met Dr. William Pepper, the Provost and Prof. of Practice of Medicine, who seemed overjoyed to see me and rushed me right through his office, or "room," into the presence of his 350 pupils and holding me in his arm, presented me to the class, in the elegant-----

February 1: Sunday.

Wrote and read till 10:30 A.M. when Jawood Lukens and Susan came. They spent the time till noon. At one P.M. I left home in the carriage to go to Wm. H. Holstein's. After a brief time spent there, he want[ed] me to see our Representative, Hon. Austin Taggart of Upper Merion, to interest him in the "Bill" which I shall have before the Legislature to separate Superintendents of Hospitals for our Insane from all duties save medical ones. I had a pleasant interview with Mr. Taggart, gave him a copy of the Bill, which I had given Senator Markley, and rec'd. his assurance that he would aid in its passage. Returned to Mr. Holstein's for a short time and was at home by six o'clock

February 2: Monday.

Up at 6 ½ A.M. At 8 went to Mr. Hovenden's to see Helen and Ida. After getting the mail, went to Phila. from Sp. Mill by Pa. R.R. at 11 A.M. Was in Dr. Morton's office in Chestnut St., went back to Broad and Market St. Depot and waited there to catch Senator Markley before he could take the Harrisburg train at 11:40. He did not come. Went to 1224, office of Board of Public Charities, on Chestnut Street to see M. H. Dickinson, "not in." Had a few minutes talk with Mr. Cadwalader Biddle, a fine old gentleman and a member of the Board. Then went to the Ledger office to see the Editor. Left a paper on "Our Insane Poor" with Dr. Burk to examine and to be publish in a week or thereabouts. Then [went] up to 119 Walnut St. to see Robert R. Corson, "not in," then to Wannamaker's to buy paper and envelopes; then to Broad &

Market depot to take a dinner of oysters. Then at 1:30 P.M. [went] to board the train for Sp. Mill where I found my man with the carriage at 2 P.M. Home 2:20 P.M.

At 3 ½ P.M. took Wm. P. Livezey with me to Flourtown to see Dr. Newberry about arranging to elect two female School Directors. Home just at sunset.

February 3: Tuesday.

Rose early. At 8 A.M. went to Norristown to receive my \$7000 Mortgage money from David Bruce's Lawyer. I forgave the Bruces \$575 so that the Lawyer would not have that to pay. The debt is about \$17,500 with my interest. The Lawyer, Mr. Larzalese can only get \$12,000 on a first mortgage. I forgive the \$575 and then he takes a second mortgage for the remainder. Deposited my \$7,000 in the "Montgomery Trust and Safe Deposit Company" at the old "Montgomery Bank." Home to dinner at 1 ½ P.M. Very rainy.

Have palpitation almost every day, but it passes off quickly nearly every time, if I can quickly take a drink of cold water, oft-times in a moment. If I have not the water until five or ten minutes have passed, it will stay ¼ or ½ hour, sometimes two or three hours.

February 4: Wednesday.

Very cold, 18° F., after the Therm. last evening marked at 40° F. But as cold as it was, I had to meet Cousin Hannah White at the Hospital Station at 11:10 A.M. Was there on time. She and her niece, Lawyer Beans' wife from Doylestown were there. I took them in my carriage to the Hospital. I visited Hannah Corson, my niece, the Supervisor, who has been sick for several days, they seeing their relative Mrs. Selzer in the meantime. We, after that, went to the wards and to see the 500 sit down in one room to dinner.

As I expected Rev. Dr. Studdiford at noon, I left them to meet him. On reaching the administration building, I met him in the Hall. Dr. Bennett then came & was introduced. In a few minutes we were up in her rooms, all the lady physicians and ourselves. After dinner Dr. S., Miss B. & myself had a conference about bringing Dr. S.'s wife from the Merchantville Asylum in N. Jersey to Norristown, if possible to have permission of the Trustees here to bring her. At 2 P.M. the Bucks Co. relatives left us and at 2 ½ P.M. Dr. S. & myself took leave of Dr. Bennett and left for Norristown, called to see two of the Trustees, neither at home; then down to E. M. Corson's office and as he is a Trustee, arranged with him to see the other Trustees and see if it be possible to have Mrs. S. admitted. The bar to it is that she is not a citizen of this State.

At 4 P.M. Dr. S. left for his home at Trenton, N. Jersey, and soon afterwards, I came away, reaching home at 5 ½ P.M. weary, weary, as I had not only been "on the go," but also had palp. for more than 2 hours in that time. I have had my supper and am ready for bed, but will wait half an hour for the evening mail. H.C. 7 ½ P.M.

February 6: Friday.

Off to Norristown at 9 A.M. At the Hospital to meet Dr. E. A. Martin of Allentown and Hon. George Ross of Doylestown, Senator from Bucks Co. They are Trustees of the Hospital. Had a pleasant talk with Dr. Martin and he assured me that he could have every Representative from Lehigh Co. to vote for my "Bill." Senator Ross

failed to come. The Board was to have the monthly meeting today at eleven. Dr. E. M. Corson was to bring the case of Mrs. Rev. Studdiford before the Board, but I left when the Trustees convened, so don't know the result. Did some business in Norristown. Home by 1 ½ P.M.

Dr. Lewis W. Read sick. I was in to see him two days ago and by request of himself and Ellwood, called again today. Pulse 96, febrile, no appetite, weakness his greatest complaint, not in bed.

Afternoon. To Spring Mill & Conshohocken on business. Home by sunset. Very busy since supper. Now 8 ½ P.M. and I am through and shall look into today's papers.

February 7: Saturday.

Rose early. A rainy dull morning. After breakfast began writing letters to the Secretaries of the 14 Medical County Societies which passed resolutions last spring in favor of the removal of all work save medical from superintendents of our hospitals for the insane poor, and giving the entire control of them to the Boards of Trustees, and also to compel Trustees to appoint women physicians for the female insane. I now want them to influence their Representatives to vote for the "Bill" which I now have before the Legislature. Now at 5 P.M. I have written 16 letters and have twice had palpitation pretty severely, nearly an hour at a time.

After supper Dr. E. M. Corson and daughter Kitty came after dark. Dr. R. wants me to send word to Rev. Studdiford that the Board of Trustees of the Hospital will probably receive his wife in a few weeks. Wrote three more letters.

February 9: Monday.

Dull morning. Up early; off for Phila. at 8:20. Took the cars at Sp. Mill at 9. Took the cars on Green St. to 4th & Chestnut. Then stepped into Robt. R. Corson's office, 119 S. 4th St., "not in." Then to Drexel Building, 7th story. Saw Dr. Markley, our Senator in his office up there. Arranged about the management of my Bill. Then to Ledger Building. Saw Dr. Burk, arranged for the publication of my paper on "Our Insane Poor." They will publish it, send 50 copies to our Senator at Harrisburg, 50 more to Hon. Mr. Taggart, our Representative, and a few to me.

Then to Dunlap's and got a new high silk hat, \$8.00. Then to the office of B. P. Charities, 1224 Chestnut St. There saw M. H. Dickinson my Kinsman, the President, and Mr. Cadwalader Biddle, a member. Then, in a heavy rain, afoot to 1312 Filbert St. to see Mary Greer and Mrs. Burleigh; got my pamphlets which I had loaned them. Then to 9th & Green, took the cars at 1:30 P.M. [Was] at home by 2:30 P.M. [Had] no food or drink during all this time.

February 10: Tuesday.

Went to Norristown early. Saw Dr. L. W. Read, who is much better and wishes me to go to Atlantic City with him tomorrow. Don't want to go. Saw Dr. Ellwood Corson. Went to John J. Corson's & took a mortgage for \$2,000 on a Norristown House. Made some other visits. Home by one P.M.

A letter from Dr. Newberry informs me that the Democrats in the township, headed by himself, have agreed to our wishes that they select two women, one of each

party, to be voted for as School Directors. Now we must try to get the Republicans to withdraw their male ticket. I have been to see some of our men about it this afternoon.

February 11: Wednesday.

Fine bright morning. At 8 A.M. I was at Spring Mill station, had tied the horse in John Righter's barn yard in a good warm place. At nine I was at 9th & Green Station, at 9:20 at R. R. Corson's office, "not in." At 10 {was} at the Ledger office, in Dr. Burk's room, 3rd story Editor's room, examining my article on "Hospitals for our Insane Poor." At 10 ½ back to R. R. C.'s office where himself, Ed. Wistar, Charles Adamson, Dr. Nelson and two others of Sandtown, Georgia, where they are trying to speculate, were having a conference about their matters. How little did Robert and Ed Wistar know of the schemes of Charles Adamson & Dr. Nelson, as revealed to me by Thomas, Charles' father. At 11 I was in the cars at 9th & Green for home; at 12 [I was] at home.

Afternoon. At 2 P.M. at Wm. Livezey's with a letter from Dr. Newberry telling me that the Democrats, by his influence and our wishes had taken, or rather put on their list of Candidates one Democratic and one Republican woman for School Directors, a great condescension for the Democrats; then to Jesse Kirks, to James Coulston's, John Dager's, Frank Lukens', all about the propriety of meeting the Democrats in order to elect the women.

Evening. Two letters, one announcing Wm. Lukens wedding to Miss Sebella Thatcher of Germantown, the other a reply from Dr. Ulrich to one of mine, asking his aid towards carrying my "Bill" in the Legislature and telling me of the death of his son, and of his own injuries.

February 15: Sunday.

I can scarcely realize that 4 days have elapsed since I wrote the above. But so busy have I been in an endeavor to have two women nominated by the Republican Party for "School Directors" that I have had a great deal of riding and managing to do, indeed so much that from early morning till bed-time I have not had an hour to spare for other work. Yesterday I got 500 tickets and as many "posters" for our women advocates to use on "Election Day." We want to give a ticket to every one who is favorable to our plans so that he can have it ready in his pocket to vote as soon as he goes to the polls, without looking for one. I was wonderfully weary last evening, but I slept well and am all right today.

I took Frannie Yocom to meeting this morning; heard four Quaker Sermons and one prayer, or rather, three were that number, but my deafness prevented me from hearing any of them.

Wm. Livezey, Jos. C. Jones & myself did a little political work at meeting, in getting some Young Friends to agree to vote for our women candidates.

Death of General Sherman. Born Feb. 8, 1820 – Died Feb. 14, 1891 = 71 y. 6 days old. He was one of the most important men, for our country, that acted during the Rebellion. With him there was no compromise. No appeals from "great Southern Ladies" caused him to yield favors. "Cease your attempts to destroy the Union." Something like that was his invariable reply. H.C. The Vicksburgh ladies went home disappointed. They found none of the spirit of McClellan in Genl. Sherman.

Death of Admiral David D. Porter. Admiral Porter died suddenly at 8:15 A.M. Feb. 13th at his residence in Washington. He had been ill for several months with fatty degeneration of the heart. Dr. Phillip S. Wales was his physician. Dr. Wales once resided in this neighborhood and was a friend of ours. His fine work on Surgery was a present to me and remains in my library.

Admiral Porter did admirable work on the Mississippi River with his fleet of Gun-boats. The Porter family was a fighting one. Originally they were Pennsylvanians, the Porters with whom Thos. Knox and the Stinsons of Norristown claimed near Kindred. The house now owned and occupied by Mrs. Fornance, daughter of Thomas Knox, is the Old Porter Homestead. Gov. David Porter was one of the family.

February 16: Monday.

Women for School Directors. On last Saturday evening the Republican clique of low politicians who pull the political wires in the township met to nominate a person as School Director in place of James Coulston who declined the nomination. He hoped they would appoint the two women whom we had selected and whom the Democrats had nominated; but no, they nominated another, as I think I have already written on page 106.

All day on Monday 16th, I rode from house to house of the Republicans, from Spring Mill to Broad Axe Hotel and further, leaving tickets for the election of the women nominees. All day till dark I was at it and met with much encouragement. Indeed but for my doing that they would scarcely have received a dozen votes.

February 17: Tuesday.

Election Day. I visited several families this morning before going to the election. Got home at 11 o'clock and felt relieved that it was over so far as my work was concerned. We had no person to stay at the polls to give out tickets, and as the low vulgar class of democrats were against women for office, they scratched their names from the regular democratic ticket. I have done all that I could for success and shall be content, for if we fail to elect, we shall at least see who are favorable, or at least how many have declared in favor of the women. I await the result.

The election is over. All the low democrats scratched the women's names, and the low Republicans opposed them, but nearly a hundred decent Democrats and Republicans voted for them – a victory.

Sent \$5 to Soc. for Protection of Children from Cruelty, 106 Chestnut, Geog. H. Smith, Sec.

Sent \$5 to Martin V. B. Davis, Sec. of Soc. Protection [of] Animals from Cruelty.

February 18: Wednesday.

At 3 o'clock this P.M. while at Consho., I was struck with palp. It lasted me till ¼ of 9 P.M., almost six hours. It was before 3 P.M. it attacked. During this time I read and wrote a good deal, all of what is written about today's work on this page and the last one (109) and wrote letters. I did it because I feel much easier when I become interested in writing or reading.

It is now 10 minutes of nine P.M. Though I have not said anything about my palpitations in the diary for the past few days, I have had them on at nearly every day, but only for a few minutes at a time. The cold water rapidly taken nearly always stopped it.

February 19: Thursday.

9 P.M. Took Mary to spend the day with Tacie, reached home at eleven A.M. In a few minutes Joseph arrived in Jawood Lukens' carriage; he had come there the night before.

After dinner we went to Norristown to see Dr. Lewis W. Read, Dr. E. M. Corson, to go to [the] Bank and make a deposit, to the Trust Co. to put [deposit] my \$2000 mortgage just rec'd. from John J. Corson and to bring Mary from Tacie's. [We were] home by 4 P.M. and found Ada and little seven year old Edward there. They had come from Jawood's.

February 20: Friday.

Rain, rain, rain day after day. In today's Ledger appears my article on "Hospitals for the Insane." It seems to be greatly approved, and in the Norristown Daily Herald by 3 P.M., a brief notice of it appeared. The publisher is to send 50 copies to Senator Markley for use [and] 50 copies to Representative Taggart for use.

Joseph went to Jawood Lukens this evening so as to go with his wife to Phila. tomorrow to "shop," &c.

February 21: Saturday.

Raining all day. Read and wrote. Among the things read was the brochure of Andrew J. White of Cornell University, "A Century's Message." It is a most interesting article.

The sun, now at nine o'clock A.M., is struggling to send its rays through the damp, misty atmosphere half covered with fleecy clouds.

Joseph & Ada still here occasionally. My paper on the Hospitals is very favorably received by Dr. Bennett and the Trustees of the Norristown Hospital. That is not wonderful as I have praised their institution. How the Superintendents [receive it] will be quite another [matter].

Thomas Hovenden's Picture, "Breaking Home Ties."

Editor's note: Following the above are pasted several newspaper clippings about Thomas Hovenden and his paintings, specifically the more recent "Breaking Home Ties."

There were a great many favorable Criticisms on "Breaking Home Ties," which I did not see. When the picture was sketched, I told Mr. Hovenden that it would be one of his most loved pictures by the public. It appeals strongly to every parent, especially to every mother, and to every person who left home when young, if he had any feeling.

February 25: Wednesday.

Joseph and myself have had several rides together and he has staid here every night. This morning I took him to Jawood Lukens and then to the R. R. Station, Pa. road, where he took the train for Phila. at 10:13. [He] will go in the P.M. train to Washington and arrive there after 6 P.M. Ada and Edward who went yesterday to Bertha's at 749 Broad St. will meet him, or rather he will go to dine at Bertha's.

2 ½ P.M. While I was at Conshohocken at 9 ½ A.M. and just as I came out of John Wood, Jr.'s house where I had been to visit his daughter, [was struck by palp.] I went

then to Susan's, got Joseph, took him to the station [and] came home by way of Spring Mill; it cont'd. till dinner. I took dinner with appetite but it cont'd. till one & half P.M. and was as bad as I have ever had it. Then it occurred to me about the Pearls, got up and broke one in my Kerchief, breathed it till my head began to feel it badly, almost staggered to the lounge and dropped on it. It was gone. It was a hard attack. I am feeling well enough now, save the heat in my belly, which attends bad attacks while on me.

February 26: Thursday.

All day rainy. Dreamed much last night, but slept a good deal. Expect visitors from Washington at 5 P.M. Wrote several letters last night, rec'd. four.

At 4 P.M. I went to Conshohocken depot of Pa. R. Road for two ladies from Buffalo, who have been at the great conference of women at Washington for several days. I was to meet them at the 4:10 train from Phila; they were not on it. I waited for the Express, not in that. It was fearfully stormy, so I came home. After night they came to our house in a cab. The train was greatly behind time on account of the snow.

They were Mrs. Harriet Townsend, President of the Women's Industrial and Educational Union of Buffalo; the other Mrs. Williams, Trustee (one of two women Trustees) of a hospital for the Insane of the State of N. York, located at Buffalo. We had just finished supper, but soon had one for them. We had a pleasant interesting evening and retired at 9 ½ P.M., as they were very tired.

February 27: Friday.

Bright morning. Thomas Hovenden was going early to Norristown, so took Mrs. Williams in his carriage. I took Mrs. Townsend. [We] were at the Hospital at 9:30 A.M. Dr. Bennett went through the whole of the female Insane department. Mrs. Williams was greatly observant of things so that she might compare this management by a woman with their Superintendents management.

We took dinner at 12 ¼, left the place at 1 P.M., reached the train at DeKalb St. and took the cars for Phila. at 1:34 P.M., after a very cordial parting.

They were very desirous, they said, to see the man who had almost forced the reluctant Medical Profession to recognize women physicians and make them their equals in the Profession, and to see Dr. Bennett who was the first woman ever to have entire charge of a hospital for insane females.

They gave me interesting accounts of their labors, in the efforts to induce the Legislature of New York to pass an imperative Law, to have women doctors to have charge of Insane females in the hospitals of N. York and also the way in which they in defiance of much opposition secured the appointment of two women as Trustees of their hospital for insane in Buffalo.

February 28: Saturday.

Rose feeling pretty weary. Went to Plymouth and Conshohocken on business. Home at 1 P.M. Did not leave home in the afternoon, but fixed up many little matters. Visited J. Wood, Jr.'s daughter.

Jay & Susan called in the afternoon.

March 1: Sunday.

Read the Friends Intelligencer entirely through before Jawood and Susan came at 10 A.M. Then went with Jay to Meeting. Had a strange feeling when I looked around at the little company where not a person was seen but Joel Lare [Lair], whom I used to see there fifty years ago.

Evening. I paste here a tribute to the memory of the son of my friend Dr. Wm. B. Ulrich of Chester, Delaware County, sent to me by his father. It was I fear a suicide. I perhaps ought not to allow such a thought to come.

Wrote two letters [in the] afternoon. Read, did not go away.

March 2: Monday.

Thermometer at 10° F. We have had so much warm weather, and now it is so severe that it affects the folks greatly.

March 3: Tuesday.

The ground is covered with snow. A sleety fine snow [fell] all day, so I staid in, save to visit Dr. Leedom who is sick, and Geo. Corson to get him to write out his gd. father's family, children and gd. children for my Genealogical Record. (Wrote all day nearly on it).

March 4: Wednesday.

A good deal of snow on the ground, but the Temp. just at freezing point. Went first to Norristown on business with Morgan Wills in relation to the money needs of Misses Aaron, [widow of] Rev'd. Samuel Aaron, our old friend long since deceased, and the daughters quite poor, and wanting me to endow for them. Home by noon.

Afternoon. Went to Conshohocken to visit John Wood Jr.'s daughter. Stopped a while with daughter Susan Lukens; did a good many light errands.

Snow passed off pretty rapidly.

March 7: Saturday.

10 P.M. Frannie Day was here on Thursday from 10 ½ to 4 P.M. At 3 we went [for] a brief visit to Helen Hovenden's. On Friday at 2 P.M. I was at 1420 17th St. at the funeral services of my more than sixty years friend Mrs. Hannah Hickling. Sixty five years ago when I first lived with the family as a student of medicine, she was a young lady, the eldest of five Misses Wogloms at No. 149 N. 9th St., Phila. She was an excellent girl. Has always been a fine woman. Her sister Helen, next in age, mar[ried] John E. Keen. She died last year, 1890. Jane [was] next, [she is] unmarried, lives with Ellen's (not Helen) children, N. 6th St. She was present. Catharine [was] the 4th, mar[ried] Lewis Walker, had one or two children. He died; then [she] mar[ried] Saml. Pancoast. He died. The funeral services were in her house where she & Hannah lived since the death of Mr. Hickling. Elizabeth is the youngest, mar[ried] Wm. Finley, a poor match. He died a few years after. His son married, and now has left his wife. Poor Elizabeth lives near to Catharine, fell lately and broke her hip, so could not attend the funeral.

Before the trifling fool of a minister got through with his blathering, I was taken with palp., so did not go to Laurel Hill as they wished that I would, but walked to 16th St.,

took the cars to Columbia Avenue, then to the Station. Had to wait 40 minutes, then took the cars for home, rode from Sp. Mill station. All this time the palp. [was] on me and lasted till about 7 ½ P.M., nearly quite 6 hours.

Yesterday too rec'd. a letter from Senator Markley that he had my "Bill" out from the Com[mittee] and would have it passed on Friday, 6th and urging me to see Hon. Austin Taggart and urge him to be ready to receive it in the House. So today I went to Norristown hoping to catch him there, as the members always come home on Friday evening or night. I found him and had an interview. He did not know much about the "Bill." But I am vigilant in writing to others every night for their influence, and so will hope for success.

The ladies, Mrs. Townsend & Mrs. Williams of Buffalo reached home safely, and this evening I have had a very complimentary letter from Mrs. Townsend telling me of her report of their visit here and to Dr. Bennett and the Hospital. I must reply, but not tonight as I have written six letters this afternoon and wrapped up a number of my papers on the Insane to send away.

March 8: Sunday.

Jay & Susan came up at 10. I had read Friends Intelligencer all through and so was ready for them.

Afternoon. Wrote many letters. Dull rainy day. It is now 8 P.M. Mary is at my left hand writing to her "Aunt Harriet" and I writing here.

March 9: Monday.

Very dull and rainy.

March 10: Tuesday.

Bright and warm. Susan, Frannie, Bertha who came yesterday, were all here to dinner. Mary went home with Bertha & little James. Frannie also went home with them. Susan staid with me; will stay all night.

March 11: Wednesday.

Susan went home with Mrs. Howard Wood who came in the carriage at 9 A.M. I read & wrote at the Wright's Genealogy till 3 P.M., then went to meet Mary. She and Frannie Yocom came up, and I brought them from Spring Mill. But at 3 P.M., before I started for them, I had an attack of palp. which is still on me at 7 P.M.

9 o'clock P.M. Palp [is] gone. I had become intensely absorbed in writing and it after an hour took leave.

March 14: Saturday.

Thursday, rain, rain, rain. Friday, rain, rain. Had no palp. those days. Wrote a good deal & was perplexed in fixing my Genealogy.

Visited 2 Ch[ildren] with peculiar affection. At 10 A.M. took cars for Phila. to meet Senator Markley in Drexel's Building, by his request, to have consultation of what should be done to make sure of success in the struggle to have my "Bill" passed. Met him, told me of his getting already through "second reading." [He] gave me a number of letters rec'd. by Senator Sloan and Meek, against the management of the Hospital at

Warren and wished me to arrange them for reading, so that he can go on with them in proper order.

At 12 o'clock went to James & Bertha's to dinner. After that went to see Dr. Morton to talk "Insanity" with him, but only a few minutes; then to Wannamaker's home, gd. dau[ghter] Bertha Yocom with me.

Evening. All of it spent, till midnight indeed, with Dr. Markley's letters and writing letters to others. Did not get asleep till after two o'clock and was much awake until six A.M., when I got up for the day.

Why did I not sleep? The excitement of examining the papers of Dr. M. kept me awake. It has always been so with me when I have had any excitement just before bedtime.

March 15: Sunday.

Did not go to Meeting, or elsewhere, save to see little sick boy of my tenant whose wife Jane we brought up. [He] is better.

March 16: Monday.

Nothing unusual.

March 17: Tuesday.

Nothing unusual.

March 18: Wednesday.

Since the 6 hours palp. on 11th, I had not a touch of palp. until today, the 18th. I went with Jno. Richardson to Penllyn & Ambler; got home at 12:30 P.M., ate dinner, then got palp.; had it 1 ½ hours.

Rec'd. a letter from Senator Markley this evening, telling me that my "Bill" had been passed in the Senate by much majority. If now we can work it through the House, it will be a noble work. The Superintendents are violent against it.

March 22: Sunday.

Thursday & Friday & Saturday were rainy, though Thursday I should omit, for it was a bright, good day, and I went with John Richardson to Penllyn to look at some houses & lots on which he had judgments which he wished me to buy of him.

I slept well last night, was awake at 5 A.M. (3 times before that in the night) and while lying awake, was struck by the palp. The cold water rapidly swallowed failed to check the rapid beating of the heart. Got up and went down stairs on to the lounge. After dressing myself with difficulty, but soon was up again, so worried about until breakfast was ready; ate it and began reading "Friends Intelligencer", and when fairly absorbed in that, at 7:50, it went off. So I had it just about two hours. Have read nearly all the articles in the Intelligencer since it went off, but am still somewhat tremulous.

March 23: Monday.

Since Thursday last, it has rained every day and is still at it with wind from the East [at] noon. Cleared at 23 P.M., and I went to Norristown on money matters. From John J. Corson's [went] to the Hospital for Insane people. Had half an hour's pleasant

chat with Dr. Bennett. Dr. E. M. Corson and Dr. Wiley came in. Returning to Norristown, made a call on Dr. Knipe, also on Miss Dr. Moore; then visited Miss Anna Eglunt by request of her mother, and gave her advice; then [returned] home by 6 ½ P.M.

March 25: Wednesday.

Prepared at 11 A.M. to go to Norristown to the Medical Society meeting at 2 P.M. Before 12, palp. attacked me. It lasted 2 ½ hours. Took very large drink of cold water, but without avail; took nothing else. When [the meeting was] over, I rode to Godfrey lot, then to Conshohocken to attend to matters. [Was] home before sunset, feeling well as usual.

March 27: Friday.

I had a dangerous fall yesterday down the cellar steps. I need not describe it. I escaped with only a severe wrench of my muscles in an effort to save myself, and a blow on the head from a violent fall against the wall; was stiff this morning.

Chalkley Styer's wife was buried today at 3 ½ P.M. People met in the Meeting House. A woman, Price, with the thinnest neck that [I] have ever seen, a poor voice and manner, preached for a full half hour, and I heard not one word of all she said. Then a man, an unattractive speaker, took about 25 minutes. Then a still less attractive one occupied 15 minutes before he ceased. I was attacked by palp. & as soon as he ceased, then came home and I have had it ever since, now 9 P.M.

During this time I have written a nine page letter to [the] Hon. Jesse M. Baker, Chairman of the Judiciary of "the House," which has my Senate Bill before it, and have read and written much besides.

Went to bed at 9. Palp. ceased in 15 minutes, and I soon got asleep and slept well till 3 ½.. Then [it] came again, staid only about 15 minutes, then at 5, for ¼ an hour.

The fierce snow storm which has been driving from the East for more than 24 hours is still at it. Our coal being nearly out, I went in the carriage to the coal yard to order some. On getting home at 9 o'clock, I was soon attacked again. It is now eleven and the palp. still going on, and I have just taken 40 drops of Tinct. Digitalis. Before 12 o'clock it went off. I ate dinner and at 2 P.M. started to go to Charles Stout's. At 2:45, just as I got to the Broad Axe Tavern, palp. struck me again. I had gone to cup Charles on the back of the neck, to remove some obstruction to turning his head, which I did and also bled his sister Hannah. It may seem strange to a reader of this that I should do this when several years I have been out of practice. But Charles & Hannah want me to stand by them a little longer and so I indulge them as their cases are not dangerous, or tedious ones.

The palp. is now at 5:45 P.M. still on me.

7 P.M. It has gone. I had taken 60 drops of Tinct. Digitalis during the afternoon, and now I will take 4 grs. Quinine before bed time. Wrote a letter, two letters, one to Cousin Hannah White about her niece, Mrs. Seltzer in the Hospital; the other to Victor C. Vaughan, M.D. of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

March 29: Sunday.

Read a good deal up to 10 A.M. when Susan came. At 12 Jay, who had gone to

Friends Meeting, came [and] went home to dinner. After dinner, daughter Mary & myself went to Norristown to get a paper from Dr. Richards, then to Montgomery Cemetery to see the graves of our many relatives there, Brother William, Follen & his wife Mary, brother Charles & wife's sister Sallie Read's & her husband's.

Have taken 3 four grain doses of Sulph. Quinine today in the hope that it would help to keep off the palp. It is now nearly 8 ½ P.M. and I have not had an attack.

March 30: Monday.

Though my Bill passed the Senate, the Supts. are fighting it desperately in the "House." They have introduced a substitute (not an amendment) which involves the Norristown Hospital for Insane, with all others, so "Farmer Taggart" who has the Bill in charge for me, telegraphed on Wednesday last for some of the Trustees and Dr. Bennett to appear before the Com. Dr. Bennett, Dr. E. M. Corson & John Slingluff went up. Dr. Bennett made a good impression, Dr. Curwen's trustee a poor one. [The House] adjourned for Easter and till April 9th when there will be another meeting.

The next day Ellwood came to tell me about it and to get me to write a letter to the Chairman, Mr. Baker of Media, Del. Co., which I did the same evening and offered to meet him in Phila, or his home to have a talk on this business.

March 31: Tuesday.

Disagreeable day. Intend to go to the City to see Dr. Markley and consult about our "Bill," but did not; busied myself about home.

April 1: Wednesday.

After receiving my mail, [I] went to Phila. in the 10 A.M. train to see Dr. Markley. He was not in his office; then called at R. R. Corson's office and saw him, C. Adamson and Edward M. Wistar, the three speculators who are booming Cedar-town in Georgia; took the 12:05 train for home, had dinner and at one ½ P.M. left for the Hospital to meet Cousin Hannah White whom I expected to meet there. She left a few minutes before I got there. My visit was though more particularly to see Dr. Bennett. She too was away. Then I went to the Trust Co., got my County Bonds out of the box and got the money from the Treasurer in the Court-House. Then went to the Borough Treasurer and paid a bill for curbing one of my lots; then rode away to near the "King of Prussia Hotel" to have a talk with "Farmer Taggart" about the "Bill," which he is managing in the House of Representatives. At 5 ½ P.M. left him for home where I arrived at 6 ½ P.M.

Evening mail.; letters from several, one from Dr. Forwood with the sad news that his health is gone, [has] Bright's Disease, strongly manifest Dropsy supervening. How inexpressibly sad!! Poor, but only 65 [and] two unmarried daughters.

April 2: Thursday.

I am very well. Still take Quinine, but only six grains today. Have not had a palp. of even the shortest time since Saturday. Can it be the Quinine? Will continue it.

April 4: Saturday.

Morning, 6 o'clock. Had a wakeful dreaming night. Was well as usual

yesterday morning. Took two grs. Quinine, ate breakfast. At 8 ½ went to Geo. Corson's to see the baby. As I returned at 9 ½, palp. struck me. I was then on my way to Godfrey lot, so went on; after that, came home, took cold water. [It] did no good. 45 drops Tct. Digitalis [were] useless. It kept battering away till noon; ate dinner. (strange it does not diminish my appetite).

After dinner rode to Godfrey lot, to see the man at work, as well as to relieve me, for when riding I am more comfortable than when lying down, or even sitting in a chair. At 3 P.M. took Mary with me and rode to Norristown to see Ellwood. Got home at 6 P.M.

Have ridden a good deal today on business, have taken 8 grs. Quinine, have felt pretty well. After supper wrote a long letter to Joseph and read [the] evening paper. I read till 8 ½ then sat quietly before the stove and am now ready for bed.

Went to bed at 9 ½ with the heart still thumping away. In a few minutes it ceased its rapid flight and jugged on in its old way. I had but little sleep from that time until six this morning, when I rose for the day.

April 5: Sunday.

Up at 5:30, dressed and have wound the clock on the stairs and opened the shutters of the parlor to let in the blazing sun-light, have raked the fires, opened all the shutters and it is just 10 min. after 6. "The house is quiet."

April 6: Monday.

Took Mary to Consho. at 8 A.M. At 12 before 9 A.[M.], Susan, Mary & self [started] for the City. At 10 I was at Drexel Building with Senator Markley to advise with him what further we could do to carry our "Bill" through the House of Representatives. He carried it through the Senate. I was home at 1:30 P.M., took dinner, was in Norristown at 2 P.M. [and] at the Hospital at 2 ½ P.[M.]. Had an interview with Dr. Bennett on the subject. At 6 P.[M.] [was] at home, after doing several other matters in Norristown.

Dr. Markley wishes me to write a newspaper article to render nugatory an article (anonymous) gotten up and published in the Press by the Superintendents. So I went to Dr. Bennett to get some statistics.

April 10: Friday.

Last night at 2 o'clock, I had just a minute palp. The cold water being at hand, I swallowed it quickly, and stopped it at once.

Since I wrote last Monday I have been very busy at many things and twice on Wednesday, twice on Thursday and once today have been in consultation with Dr. Leedom in a case of pneumonia, supervening on Grippe, Frank Lukens' wife. We bled her and she is now greatly better.

I have been stopped from writing by the entrance of W. L. C. who wants me to lend him \$150 to pay for a shortage in his son Jim's accounts. I gave it to him.

April 11: Saturday.

8 A.M. Have been up and dressed two hours. Did not sleep much last night, but was not greatly worried about Jim, but sad that his mother should have another great

trouble when the first one seemed to have diminished so as hardly to be felt any more. How greatly we may be distressed by the conduct of others, conduct we could avoid.

9 P.M. I felt so uncomfortable about Jim Cresson's blunder all day that I went up at 5 ½ P.M. (though I had been up at 10 A.M.), to see how his father had succeeded in correcting the mistake. Found them both at home and the matter settled. I had sent my check for \$150 to balance his account., so I came home greatly relieved and can go to be hoping to get a good night's rest.

April 12: Sunday.

Slept well last night. Up at 6 A.M.; feel pretty well. Had a severe fall an hour ago by stumbling over a stone. Fell violently, my right hand coming down with the weight of my whole body behind it, on a flat stone. My hand was severely bruised.

But the danger in the above fall was not nearly so dangerous to me as the fall of our "Iron Bell" while I was ringing it. It broke from its place and dropped about 10 feet within a few inches of my head, a few weeks ago.

La Grippe = The Grip.

The highest death rate ever known in Chicago, the largest number of deaths in Pittsburgh ever recorded in one day. The doctors of Milwaukee and other Western Cities [are] over-crowded with work. Six thousand children unable to attend school in New York, such is the record at the present time, and yet some physicians refuse to believe that the disease exists. The name may not be the correct one but certainly humanity is afflicted with some unusual physical ill, the results of which are distressing to contemplate.

The above from "The Tribune" is a truthful, sensible article.

I do not be in regular practice [copied as written], but my near tenants, a family where the mother was "brought up" by us, has had the "Grip" severely, vomiting at first, headache, sore throat, swelled external glands of neck, but no great fever; in a few days severe soreness of lips, which became swelled and scabby. My treatment was simply a little morph. at bed-time and if needed to allay restlessness & pain in the day-time, sweetened vinegar and water to allay nausea and vomiting, with Salycilate Soda for the sore throat and to allay fever. Dr. Leedom had a woman of 50, who after several days suffering with those symptoms was attacked by a severe pneumonia of the left lung. I was called by him, Temp. 103 ½, Resp. 76, pulse 90, weak. She was in a dangerous state, almost gasping for breath, bloody sputa. I advised vs. [blood-letting], 12 oz. of blood were taken, [with] some relief, morph. [given] at bed-time. Next morning no fresh blood, before night none of any kind; recovered in a few days; said her relief came from the vs. Frank Lukens' wife.

April 14: Tuesday.

Yesterday, 13th, I had a palp. at 2 A.M. but got up and took a rapid and copious draught of cold water which arrested it at once. But several minutes elapsed as I had to go down to the pump to get the water. Then I was up early and very busy until I went to the Station to meet Frannie Day at 9:45 A.M. At 11 ½ after getting home and while enjoying myself talking with Frannie, Mary, Susan and Miss Grace Carter, a young lady from Va., the palp. occurred again. I slipt [sic] out, got the cold water, drank it and was

relieved. In the afternoon about 3 ½ o'clock I had it again; again the water put it away. So, I have had it 3 times today, and cured [it] by the water. And very busy I was all day.

April 15: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Awoke at 3 (though several times before, too) and while lying quietly thinking about matters, the palp. struck me. Instantly I rose, went down to the pump, took a large drink of cold water, and as soon as it was down, I was well. Just after breakfast I had another attack, but the water stopped it quickly. I was very busy with directing the men at Conshohocken, cleaning the field, preparatory to mowing, and having the fences repaired around one of Joseph's lots.

After dinner went to Norristown to loan \$1,800 on Mortgage to Enoch Katz; then to Consho. again to see the men. At 6 P.M. started in the carriage to see James Pierce the Carpenter, to do some work. Just as I passed George Corson's house, palp. struck me. I went into the next house and took a copious drink of water, but without avail, and now at 9 P.M. when worn out, I am still suffering from it.

April 16: Thursday.

8 A.M. [Last night] with the palp. still on me, I went to bed at 9:15. It cont'd. on me till 11 ½. Then at 1 ½ A.M. today it came again, lasted only about 15 minutes, then no more till morning.

Yesterday daughter Susan took Miss Grace Carter of Va. to see Dr. Bennett and the Insane people. I was to go with them but could not. Grace is a very interesting young lady, and she was surprised to see such an hospital, managed entire by women. Thought it a wonderful place, and Dr. Bennett a wonderful woman. There were other interested visitors there, an English Lady who had heard that there was such an institution in America, managed solely by women. She was amazed, and though the friend who accompanied her from Philad. went home, she remained, so desirous was she to see it in all its details.

April 19: Sunday.

Have been very well since the palp. of Wednesday went off at 11 ½ that night, and scarcely ever had busier days, attending to various workmen whom I have had trimming my orchard and bushes, making fences at Conshohocken lots, Joseph's and my own, farming, papering dining room, painting house outside, seeing patients with Dr. Leedom, seeing two special ones of my own, &c., &c.

Went to bed at 9 ½ last night. Slept pretty well, awaking often as usual. At 5 ½ lay awake a few moments when suddenly palp. dashed upon me. I went quietly down to the cistern, got a tin-cup full of cold water, drank it nearly all in a few minutes, all to no avail. Palp. went on till 9 ¼, only a few minutes ago.

½ past eleven o'clock A.M. I had been free from the palp. only about 20 minutes when Dr. Leedom called to get me along with him to see a patient. I went, and then with him to Conshohocken 1 ½ miles away. Got home at 10 ¼, went upstairs and washed & put on clean clothes, but before quite dressed, palp. began again and lasted 20 minutes.

Susan had come up to see us, and so she staid with me in the room. I took nothing, simply leaned back in the stuffed arm chair with my feet up on the window. That position I shall try again.

April 22: Wednesday.

7 ½ o'clock. Just finished breakfast. Was up at 5 ½. Have been in consultation with "the man" about the prospective day's work, and have written two letters. Since Sunday I have not had palpitations. Weather has been fine and I have had men painting and repairing the house.

President Harrison is "swinging around the circle" of the United States and making speeches wherever the cars stop and in the cities. His many and diversified speeches have greatly raised him in my opinion of him. They are really fine and following each other so rapidly are deeply interesting as showing his knowledge of the localities.

April 24: Friday.

Very little sleep on Wednesday night, because I had palp. at 11 P.M. for 15 min., then at 1 A.M. of Thursday, which lasted 2 ½ hours. I drank heavily of cold water, but without avail. Was pretty miserable and felt not well on Thursday morning, but I was active all day, seeing to my men, writing letters, going with Georgie Yocom and our Mary to Consho., &c. Slept well last night; up at 5 ½.

April 26: Sunday.

Morning, 6 A.M. Rose at 5 after a nights pretty good rest. Dressed myself, called Mary at six. Thermometer F. at 5 A.M. 34°, at 6 A.M. 36°. Sky very clear. Sun rose in all its grandeur. Read "Darkest Africa" and "Friends Intelligencer" till 10 A.M. when Jaywood Lukens & Susan came, and Jaywood & self went to "Friends Meeting." Poor old Joel Lair preached, or rather told over again for the thousandth time his patches of sermons. He preaches just as mechanically now as he walks.

After dinner. Rested on the lounge an hour. At 3 P.M. went to see "Seppy" Roberts who has recently had a "stroke" as folks say, paralyzed somewhat on the right side. I had felt during the forenoon that it might be a comfort to him if I would go to see him. He is a lively man, or was. So took Mary along, stopped to see my long time friends Henry Schlater & wife a few minutes, then on to Seppy's. He was delighted to see me and talked away in a happy strain for an hour nearly. While sitting by his bedside, palp. attacked me, but I made no sign of discomfort. It lasted me until seven o'clock nearly. 20' before seven it went off. Then it occurred to me that we ought to call on Percy Corson & wife as they will soon go home to Minnesota again. So, late as it was, we went and spent half an hour there very pleasantly. After coming home, read a good many pages in Darkest Africa.

What a wonderfully brave, efficient traveler Henry M. Stanley is. What fearful trials and labors he had in the very face of Death, and yet he succeeded!

April 30: Thursday.

Death of Dr. Joseph Leidy, April 30, 1891, in the 68th yr. of his age.

Death of Dr. Phillip Leidy [April 29, 1891] brother of Dr. Joseph, in 53rd. year.

How strange that the two brothers, well only a couple of weeks ago, indeed Joseph only a week ago was lecturing to his large class in the University of Pa. on Anatomy & Zoology.

May 2: Saturday.

Evening. During all this week I have been very well, not a touch of palp. Have taken no medicine to prevent its coming. Have not written in this diary at all this week. We were all shocked by the announcement of Dr. Jos. Leidy's death. He was very friendly with me, and I loved him for his virtues and his genius.

Editor's note: Two newspaper clippings are pasted in the diary at this point, "CHOICE BITS OF VERSE" and 'THE SLEEPING SENTINEL.' Dr. Corson's entry above them reads, "President Lincoln saves the sleeping but brave Sentinel Boy."

May 3: Sunday.

Took gd. daughter Frannie Yocom to Germantown this forenoon to see Frank & Hannah Bacon and their sons. Dined there and at nearly 4 P.M. left there for home, where we arrived at 5 ½ P.M. There was a gentle rain in the night and early morning but then cleared and we had a pleasant ride.

May 4: Monday.

Had palp. two hours today, began while I was in Norristown; came nearly home with it on me. Have been miserable today with griping pains and diarrhoea. No appetite.

Dr. Ellwood M. Corson & myself expect to go to Washington tomorrow to the Amer. Association Meeting and to see Joseph and Ida and Edward Foulke. The last one has been for 20 years in employ of the Pa. R. R., now in the office at the Washington Station, or Depot.

May 6: Wednesday.

I was pretty poorly all day yesterday, but feel pretty well this morning, and after breakfast will leave home for Washington

Off for Washington to see Joseph. Was at Consho. to take the Cars at 10:05 A.M. My Nephew Dr. Ellwood M. Corson was aboard, and at 11:15 we left Broad St., after a good Oyster stew for each of us, for Washington. We reached there after 2 P.M. Were met at the Depot by Son Joseph and Edward Foulke, "Aunt Harriet's" son. I went to the "Post" with Joseph in his carriage. The "Washington Barracks," or as called by those officers residing there, "the post" is along the Potomac River, south end of the City of Washington; [it] includes about acres and is a most beautiful place. As you enter it directly in the line of 4 ½ St., you pass through a gate where a sentinel paces night and day and go for a long distance down a broad, beautiful paved road, with a wide path on each side, wide walks rather with a brick center of several feet in width and 75 maple trees, one each side of each walk, making 300 trees on the two sides of the great avenue.

The first house at the end of this avenue is the one occupied by Joseph and a similar one by one of the Chief Line Officers. The Avenue ends or comes plump against the "Parade Ground" of several acres of a beautiful grassy lawn, on one side of which the Avenue continues. After a short turn down the whole length of the parade ground, having on its left, opposite the parade ground, a few scattered houses for officers, then passes on hundreds of yards down to the Barracks and subaltern officers homes.

The steamboat for Mt. Vernon and other points on the Potomac River leaves a wharf just above the gate entrance daily.

As Joseph had a nice carriage, good, quiet, active horse and driver, we went around the City, on our way to and from the meetings, and had a pleasant time. "Aunt Emily Bacon" has been there during three weeks and has been a comfort to them.

On arriving at Joseph's house I found a lunch prepared for us. After eating it, we went to the Albaugh Opera House, the place of meeting and "Registered," then came back to the Post.

May 7: Thursday.

Had a night's good rest. Went this morning to grand Army Hall ("by the way," I was there in the Section of Practice of Medicine and Physiology an hour yesterday), to a meeting called by Dr. N. S. Davis of Chicago, the "Father of the Am. Med. Assoc.," to form a "Medical Temperance Society," upon the basis of the British Medical Temperance Society. I was there at the hour as the call desired us all to be.

Dr. Davis was there, two or three others also. Dr. D. seemed much pleased to see me. He was very anxious. Very soon there were about twenty present. He then stated the object of the meeting, read the plan adopted by the British Society. We gave our names and Post Office address, appointed a committee to report a constitution and By-Laws tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock and then adjourned.

May 8: Friday.

At 10 [A.M.] went into the general meeting in the Opera House. Came back to Joseph's at one P.M. to dine. After that rode about the City with Joseph. Mrs. Maulsby & Ida & Ellwood came at 4 P.M. and spent an hour at Joseph's.

At 8 P.M. we went to the Grand Army Museum to a reception by the Surgeon General of the Army, a very interesting place. Had a pleasant time. At 9 P.M. I was struck while up in the gallery with palp. I said nothing to Joseph about it, but soon proposed going home. Took a glass tumbler full of cold water but got no relief. So went home; found some company there, but I just read Mark Twain's book till 10 ½ P.M., then went to bed, and in a few minutes the palp ceased; had it 1 ½ hours.

Slept pretty well. At 9 A.M. was at Gd. Army Hall, to attend Dr. Davis' meeting. Report was made of Constitution & By-Laws. All were urged to be active in getting new members and at 10 we adjourned.

I am greatly gratified that this Society has been organized, and particularly pleased that it originated with Dr. Davis, a great leader in our profession.

After attending that meeting, we returned to Joseph's, had a lunch. At 11 ½ A.M. went to the depot. At 12:15 left for home. At Phila. just stepped from the Cars to another train on the Norristown Road, and was soon at Conshohocken, and at home at 6 P.M., where I found them all well.

May 9: Saturday.

At home nearly all day, doing various things.

May 10: Sunday.

I brought Bertha Yocom from Sp. Mill yesterday afternoon, and this morning

brought Frannie Day & her two children. At eleven A.M. Thomas Yocom & Alan Lukens came, & soon after Jawood Lukens & Susan. The last four went away before dinner. Frannie C. Day & children went home after tea. In the evening, Dr. E. M. Corson, wife and son & Catharine the daughter came. I read at intervals through the day.

May 11: Monday.

9 P.M. Nothing out of the usual routine of my farming. Went to Bank and made deposit after dinner. Thermometer at 90° F. for several hours this P.M. Very remarkable.

May 13: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Have been very busy today, all the A.M. overseeing things preparatory to corn planting. While at the field, a lady, Mrs. Louise Thomas, widow of Rev'd. Abel Thomas, came to see me as she says she knew me quite well forty or more years ago. She is one of the great women now in women suffrage and other Reform measures. Lives in New York, but was very desirous to see me, is a companion worker with Mrs. Townsend and Mrs. Williams of Buffalo, who were here on their return from the Washington Conference last spring. This woman is the treasurer of that Council. As I was not at home when she called, I rode down to Dr. Beaver's to see her. Had a very pleasant visit to her, Mrs. Beaver and Miss Elliott, a former pupil of Dr. Beaver.

May 14: Thursday.

Men planting corn. I rode to H. Stout's with Mary, took red medicine by her request. Did a number of small things of not much consequence.

Had a long letter from my friend Dr. Forwood last evening. He has discovered that his disease is a scrofula induced by starvation diet. I wrote long letter to him and dreamed much about him. It disturbed my sleep as any exciting reading or talk indulged in just before bed-time is sure to do. He has begun to take plenty of food which he had fear to do; now is getting well rapidly.

I have had a very sick cow, but she now appears to be getting well, a most singular case, but not worthwhile to describe it.

May 15: Friday.

Nothing of unusual importance today. Busy with many matters.

May 16: Saturday.

Did not sleep well last night. This morning at ¼ of 6 o'clock struck by palp. It lasted strongly until ¼ of eleven. Since then have been quite busy. While the attack was on me, I wrote a very long letter, 8 pages, to Nephew Thomas Adamson, Consul General at Panama, Central America. [Wrote] another to Harriet M. Foulke, and a business letter to W. Newport. I did these things because if I can get interested in mental operations, as writing letters or reading newspapers or books, I am much more comfortable than even when in bed.

After supper I was attacked again. It only lasted about half an hour. Now 9 ½ am ready for bed.

A note of Dr. Sarah R. A. Dolley's beginning the study of medicine:

- 1) Began studying at Home (Schuylkill, Chester Co., Pa.)
- 2) In 1847, with me, in 1848.
- 3) Graduated at Syracuse in 1851, Feb. 10th.
- 4) Spent the next year in Blockley Hospital, Philadelphia.
- 5) Has Certificate of it.
- 6) Has Certificate of Attendance at Friends.
- 7) Married Dr. Lester C. Dolley, one of the Professors of the Syracuse Medical School, soon after leaving Phila. Blockley Hospital.

May 17: Sunday.

Read during the morning until 9 ½ A.M. when David Newport of Abington Township, a Minister among Friends arrived. He had written to me that he would be over this morning at Meeting. So I had invited Samuel Tyson and his wife to come to dinner, and also Susan Lukens, our daughter and her husband Jawood Lukens. David and self went out to Friends Meeting. He soon began to preach and kept at it for a full hour, afterwards prayed. When meeting "broke," Samuel Tyson & wife who were present, David & myself spent half an hour at Thomas Hovenden's, then all came home where we found Jawood Lukens and Susan. They all staid till nearly four o'clock and we had quite an enjoyable time. It is the only time that Mary and self have had invited company, different friends, to dine with us by appointment for years.

It was a pleasant gathering of friends, and all seemed to enjoy the social meeting together. Mrs. Tyson is daughter of my deceased friend Senator Jonathan Roberts of Upper Merion, this County.

May 24: Sunday.

8 A.M. It surprises me that for one whole week I have not written in this diary and yet much has transpired. I have written a great many letters. Have rec'd. many, have attended the meeting of our County Medical Society. Have been in Philad. and collected interest from the Banks and on Kansas Mortgages; have been at the Zoological Garden, have had palp. for several hours during the week, have read a good deal, &c., &c., and last night at 9 ½ o'clock went to bed very well. Slept quite well and at 5 A.M. this day, after three hours unbroken nap (had had several short ones before), was struck by the palp. and now at 8 o'clock after being up 2 hours, it is still battering away, and I engaged in writing because I am easier when thus engaged than when doing nothing [and] I am merely waiting for the palp. to cease his thumping against my ribs so violently.

11 ½ A.M. The palp. has just ceased, and while I am greatly relieved, I do not feel as well as formerly after it had ceased.

Company. When I came down stairs, was met by Jay, Susan, Ada, Bertha and her two sons Hiram and James, Jr.

A pamphlet from Dr. Henry Fraser Campbell must be noticed.

5' after 8 [P.M.]. Bertha & Children went away at 5 P.M. After supper I took Ada, Thomas Y. & Mary down to Jay Lukens & came back "right away." And now 8:05 P.M. am strongly attacked again by Mr. Palpitation. How long it will stay we shall see.

May 25: Monday.

6 A.M. The palp cont'd. till exactly five minutes after midnight. Then it was long before I got asleep and the nap was a brief one, followed by a long wakeful state. At five o'clock less 10 minutes, I rose and dressed myself, went down stairs and out to the office to ring the bell for the man to get up. That was at 15 minutes after five o'clock. Then took up a book lying on the table of the parlor. It proved to be "The History of the Civil War." I opened it where it gives the history of the "Bombardment of Pulaski." What an interesting history!! How fearful the labors of our men, while hundreds of colored men anxious to help and well acclimated were forced to stand idly by while New England and Pennsylvania young men were destroyed by those labors which the colored men wished to perform, but were not allowed to do. I read it with intense interest until I began to write here. It made me ashamed to complain of the trifling suffering from my palpitation of heart.

May 26: Tuesday.

Up at 5 A.M. as usual; read some in the War History until breakfast time. After breakfast had Kentucky, the Sorrel, put to the light carriage, and though it was threatening rain, I started for Phenixville [sic], 14 miles away, to be at the funeral of Dr. Coffman [Isaac C. Coffman] who graduated M.D. at the University of Pa. in Phila. in 1827, while I graduated in 1828, though I am older than he nearly one year. The dust was well laid, the roads in good order, the vegetation luxuriant and as the whole route was through a highly cultivated country, the ride was delightful. On leaving Norristown, my mind reverted to the times when I first made visits along the same road to my Sister Mary Adamson at the store, the place ever since called the "Corner Store" at Schuylkill, Chester Co. One mile this side of Phenixville I was alone, no one with me to distract my attention from the beautiful country and the changes that have taken place during 70 years that have passed since my first trip on the road.

As I ascended the hill above Stony Creek to the comfortable home of Mr. Chain as it stood there so long ago, seemed before me and on the other side of the road just above it, the home and wheelwright shop of the good old pump-maker Mr. Pharoah, a lineal descendent of the Kings of Egypt. I doubt not, though the name is Americanized to Farro. His beautiful black eyed daughters could well claim lineage with the fairest of Egypt's queens. On I went past the old home of Robert Stinson across the fields to my right a little further from the road then the residence of "Old" John McFarland, while a half a mile beyond I pass the residence of Archy Darrah and see before me the Hotel Jeffersonville and in a moment take the left hand road with John Miller's home on my left hand; a few hundred yards further is the long oblique, oblique in relation to the road I am traveling, road that leads to the residence of the then owner, good, old Jesse Bean, the gd. father of my friend Theodore, who in a fit of despondency committed suicide recently; but on again I go, peering through the woods to catch a glimpse of the Schrack home, between me and the River Schuylkill, and which revives the pleasant gossip enlivened the lower end of Germantown when the name of Schrack was linked with the name of Norris. A little further and I see the same old farm house that then stood alone in a stretch of almost a mile, before the home of the then rich Crawfords was seen down in the hollow on the right hand, the only one until "Hog Town," now Shannonville was reached. A turn to the left, into the road to reach the Schuylkill, brought me to the

Wetherill's Estates, the rich Wetherills from Phila. whom the country folks regarded as entitled to great respect, the owners of great lead mines, the employers of the poor from Hog Town to the Perkiomen and the Schuylkill, but as I passed that, the house of Mr. Bakewell on the left (now the neglected mansion of the late Dr. Wm. Wetherill) awakened memories of the celebrated John James Audibon [Audubon], his son-in-law, once resident there; the man more celebrated as an Ornithologist than any one else in this or any other country. Prof. Wilson in speaking of him said: "The hearts of all who were capable of conceiving the difficulties, dangers and sacrifices that must have been encountered, endured and overcome, before genius could have embodied these, the glory of innumerable triumphs, warmed to Audubon, the greatest artist in his own walk that ever lived."

Passing a half mile further, I come to the old Pawling's estate, now & for years the home in summer of the family of John Price Wetherill. Another half mile and the River Schuylkill is before us, where seventy years ago Frederich Koons, his four horses and his load of salt by the breaking of the "Wise Bridge" which spanned the river on the very place the present stronger structure stands, were precipitated a fall of more than 20 feet onto the ice which was so solid that even this great weight did not go through it, so as to let the horses entirely through the ice, but some were so injured as to make it a necessity to kill them, and Koons himself was greatly injured. And being across the bridge, we are in the region of old Johnny Vanderslice, a farmer and blacksmith who lived in peace and quiet with no house near to him, where now the Perkiomen Junction of the Reading R. Road makes a bustling scene. We raise the red hill over which the road trends, and off to the right we see the fine stretch of land and the comfortable home in ye olden time of Nathan Pennypacker. But on we ride and half a mile brings us to the fine old home of the Rossiters of those days, just as we reach the "old Gulf Road." Three hundred yards further on the old road and we are in front of what was for a whole century, perhaps more, the "Bull Tavern" (now a private house), then a place greatly deeded by travelers in their wary struggles on that muddiest of all roads. We pass and ¼ mile before us on a considerable elevation "Moore Hall," the once home of Joseph, or I should say Col. Joseph Moore (but that was more than a century ago). Looking down on Pickering Creek and the old "Grist Mill" which for all the past century was the mill for the farmers of all the region for many miles around. Half a mile further and on my right is the small meeting house of Friends, now without a congregation, and behind it the small unadorned grave yard where I stop to once more look upon the quiet resting place of her, who to me supplied a mother's place, whose voice was forever hushed when I was only six years old. Hard by this yard is the home of my niece Mrs. Pennypacker & her family. She being the daughter of my Sister Mary Corson Adamson, of whom I have just spoken, I made a call on them, then went on to the funeral of my friend Dr. Isaac C. Coffman who graduated in 1827, I in 1828. He was born January 1st, 1805, I Oct. 10 [8], 1804.

It was a very small funeral. He had become very poor, but had some good children who were enabled to help him in his old age. Took dinner with Dr. Oberholtzer.

On returning I called again on my niece and also made a short call on another niece, Mrs. Albert Crawford, daughter of my brother Charles Corson. After that stopped to see my friend Dr. John Schrack who was not at home, so left my card. Again on

reaching Norristown stopped to call on my Nephew J. J. Corson on business, then on home by 6 ½ P.M. It was a pleasant ride, a cloudy, rainy day but warm and pleasant.

May 28: Thursday.

Up early. Took the boy with me to the Cars, then sent him home with the carriage, myself went to the City in the 9 train from Consho. At 12:15 met my sick, old Dr. Forwood at the depot, Broad & Market St. Staid an hour with himself and daughter, lunched there, and at 2:10 took the Cars for Norristown to attend the Historical Soc. meeting. That was quite interesting and after adjournment at 5 P.M. came home, and not at all weary.

May 30: Saturday.

“Decoration Day.” Yesterday and today have taken things easy and yet have done many useful things.

May 31: Sunday.

At 6 ½ this morning was attacked by palpitation quite severely. It lasted three hours, during which time I was quite uncomfortable though I read a good deal at intervals when not lying on the bed.

Ever since it went off have not been so comfortable as I generally am after it ceases.

Jaywood and Susan came at eleven. They had had a long ride for pleasure.

After dinner the thought came to me that we ought to have some women on the Board of Public Charities. So I sat down and wrote as follows with the intention to present it to the State Medical Society at its meeting at Reading, Pa. on Tuesday June 6th (next Tuesday):

Mr. President.

In view of the fact that Insanity seems to be on the increase in a ratio greater than the ratio of increase of population, and that one half of the thousands of insane in our hospital are females, it appears to me that it is desirable to have both sexes represented on our Board of Public Charities; and also on the Boards of Trustees of hospitals for the care & treatment of the insane.

And in the presence of the fact that the almost unaided, zealous efforts of a single woman, the well known and honored Dorothea L. Dix has had more effect in improving the condition of the insane in our State and I may say in every State, than can be claimed by any man officially connected with the care of our Insane poor.

I had written the above when it occurred to me that I had heard that there was one or more women on the Board of Charities in New York State. So I stopped writing for the meeting and wrote to Mrs. Harriet Townsend of Buffalo, President of the Educational and Industrial Union of Buffalo for information. While doing this at 1 ½ P.M., palp. attacked me again and lasted one hour, all of which time I employed myself in writing. It left me at 2 ½ P.M. I then took Mary with me in the carriage to Conshohocken to mail

the letter to my Buffalo friend so as to get an answer in time to use the information from her in my attempt to get the Com. referred to, as early as Tuesday afternoon or soon on Wednesday in the State meeting.

June 3: Wednesday.

9 P.M. On Tuesday I went alone in the Pa. R. R. Cars to Reading. There was a fine room ready for me at the "Grand Central," on the first floor up stairs along side of the Ladies Parlor. Attended the meeting all day. At 5 o'clock visited their new, fine hospital. At 8 P.M. was at the President's Address delivery. At 9 P.[M.], at the Reception in Library Hall, I rec'd. a perfect ovation there; every delegate almost, brot his wife or other lady, or his daughter, saying to me that she wished to be introduced to me, had heard so much of what I had done for women's advancement that "they were anxious to take me by the hand," so, too, many Reading people.

At 10 ½ I returned to the "Central" with Dr. Allen of the Woman's College, who also was staying there. I went to bed, slept well. Was up at 6 A.M.

Very hot. Went to the meeting at 9 A.M. At 11 ½ A.M. introduced my preamble, see it on last page but one, and the following Resolution:

"That a Committee be appointed by the President of this Society to appeal to the Governor to fill the first vacancy which shall occur in the Board of Public Charities by the appointment of an enlightened and philanthropic woman."

The motion was seconded by Dr. W. B. Ulrich in a forcible and eloquent approval of the Resolution. It passed unanimously. I was afterwards gratified to find how greatly the proposed reform was approved by many who I had feared would be opposed to it.

At 4 P.M. Dr. Bennett, Dr. E. M. Corson, Dr. Keyser, Dr. John B. Roberts and others & myself took the train for Norristown.

June 4: Thursday.

Just at midnight last night, I awakened and in a few minutes palp. struck me. It cont'd. until 8 A.M. today, 8 hours. At 2 ½ went to Norristown to Bank. After doing many things, started for home. Palp. struck me. Got some ice water, drank it rapidly and it did no good. Half hour after I got home, [it] left me. Afterwards while reading at 8 ½ P.M. [it] attacked me again but a drink of ice water stopped it. Now having written all this am ready for bed.

June 6: Saturday.

7 P.M. On Friday I had no palpitation. Did a good many matters; was active all day.

Early this morning, say 5 A.M., was up. At 7 ½ left for Consho., took the Reading Cars about 8 A.M. Was at Dr. Samuel Wolfe's at 9 A.M.. Went to a house opposite to Dr. Wolfe's, N. 1631 Diamond St., to see Dr. W. Stump Forwood, spent a few minutes with him there, then took him over to Dr. Wolfe's, then left them together and took the Cars down 15th St. to Pine to see Dr. Atkinson, not at home. Then went to see Mr. Singerly, consulted him about the propriety of sending word to the Governor to ask that he delay appointing a man to be on the Board of P. Charities until the Com. directed by the State Medical Society could have time to act their part. Also went to see

Dr. Wolfe's brother on the same subject. Then [went] home in the 12:25 train, ate dinner quickly, then took Mary to the unveiling of the "Hartranft Monument" in Montgomery Cemetery. An immense concourse of people, thousands were there. Never did I see so many persons on the streets. The Main St. foot-walks were crowded from Dr. L. W. Read's where the Governor & Ex-Governor & the other great men were entertained, and which was the "Head-Quarters", up to the very entrance to the Cemetery.

With Mary and our little boy Jimmy Cunningham, I went right up Main St. in and out among its crowd of carriages and turning the carriage above the entrance, had good view of the soldiers and notables as they wheeled into the grounds. Did not go in.

I will paste the proceedings on the next leaf and then go on with my own affairs.

June 7: Sunday.

At home nearly all day. Cloudy, rainy day.

June 8: Monday.

Went to Norristown early to get some things. Home by 10 A.M. Afterwards went to funeral of Mrs. George Freas, once Margaret Hellings; home at noon. At 4 P.M. went to Spring Mill station to meet Dr. Forwood who with his daughter Lizzie will come there from Phila. to spend a few days with us. They came.

June 9: Tuesday.

Frannie Day being expected at Sp. Mill station at 9:45 A.M., I went in time to meet her and bring her up here. At 11 A.M. I took Dr. F. and dau[ghter] to see the school room, Hannah Williams' fifty, yes sixty years ago, where Dr. F.'s mother, and two aunts now living spent some years of their girlhood at school. He and his dau[ghter] were anxious to see the old place. Then we went through the Meeting House, and over the grave yard. After dinner spent the day at home.

June 10: Wednesday.

Yesterday afternoon, Theodore Search, grandson of Uncle Richard Corson, son of his dau[ghter] Nancy, called here with his daughter. He seems a fine smart man, is said to be quite a mathematician, was years ago Principal of the Public School in Wilmington, Del.

June 11: Thursday.

Dr. F. & daughter left in the 10 train. I gave them tickets to Phila.

June 12: Friday.

Nothing of consequence today, save some letters from friends, &c.

Letter from Dr. Wm. B. Dewees of Salina, Kansas, commending my paper on "Antiseptics in Midwifery" and with his pamphlet on "Disease by Imagination, cured by Suggestion," a valuable paper and well written. His explanation is good of the philosophy of the cure.

June 13: Saturday.

Went in the forenoon to see Charles Lukens in relation to the appeal of Samuel

Aaron's daughters for help. Samuel Aaron was a Baptist Minister who kept a high school at Norristown and had hundreds of pupils. One of the few ministers who was an outspoken temperance advocate. His daughters are now poor, and I might therefore perhaps doubt the truthfulness of the following: "Never have I seen the Righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread."

Afternoon. At 2 P.M. & from that till 4:15 there were about 50 women in Helen Hovenden's parlors. As a "Woman's Suffrage Association," we had several fine papers read by the women. Only Saml. Tyson, Mr. Hovenden & myself of the male sex [were present]. It was a most interesting meeting. I was called upon and responded briefly.

9 P.M. Four times today I have had attacks of palp. Three of them were put off instantly by a tumbler full of ice-water. The other stopped suddenly without it.

June 14: Sunday.

Fearing a long attack of palp. would follow these repeated threatenings of yesterday, I last evening took six grains of Sulph. Quinine before bed-time. I slept wonderfully well till 6 ½ this morning. As I lay there thinking how strange it was that I should have slept until 6 ½ o'clock instead of being dressed at 5 or 5 ½, palp. struck me and now at 7 ½ it has just left me.

9 P.M. Have written letters to my son Joseph K. Corson, Dr. Wm. B. Dewees and Governor Pattison, the letter to him to appoint women on the Board of Public Charities, and also to appropriate \$7,500 to the Phila. Polyclinic hospital.

Mary and myself rode to Charles Stout's after tea. Stopped at other places.

June 15 and 16: Monday and Tuesday.

Very hot, 96° and 98°.

Bertha Yocom Sen. came up Tuesday afternoon. In the evening Thomas & Helen Hovenden and Miss Wetherill came. We had a pleasant time.

Rec'd. from Dr. Ruschenberger two pamphlets, lives of Dr. Caspar Wistar and Governor Emerson, with portraits, very interesting. Nearly finished reading them before our visitors came.

June 17: Wednesday.

Noon Therm. F. 95°. Yesterday I had 4 palps., 3 of which were put off instantly by a tumbler of ice water, and one staid but a few minutes. These were all in the day-time. At 9 ½ P.M. was struck again. Ice-water took it off and I lay in bed a few minutes when it began again, but I jumped up and it ceased. [Had it] six times in about 16 hours. I was active all day.

At 9 A.M. after a good deal of going here and there, I was in the carriage on my way to Post Office when palp. came on me. I got to Helen's in a few minutes and I drank at two times nearly 1 quart of Cistern water, but it was not cold enough, had no effect. Came home, drank ice water rapidly but no effect, and now as I write and as the clock is ticking 12 times, it is still on me, Therm 95°

Three o'clock and 30 minutes. It has just left me. I was asleep and dreamed that I upset Mary & myself. It frightened me and I awoke with it off.

9 P.M. The first rain for about 2 weeks is now falling.

June 18: Thursday.

It is now nearly six o'clock and I have just come from Charles Lukens where he and I have had an interview with Samuel Aaron's daughter Louisa Aaron. She and her sister are quite poor, and she had written to us for assistance. We had a long talk in which she laid before us their indebtedness and assets, &c. Wants particularly to have a guardian appointed for her sister Martha's gd. child who has money and is kept from her by its father's family.

She already owes me money, but we will do more for the daughter of my old friend.

Women recommended to Gov. Pattison for appointments to B.P.C.

- 1) Mrs. Mary E. Mumford;
- 2) Mrs. Helen C. Jenks;
- 3) Ann Hallowell;
- 4) Sallie Fraley Hallowell;
- 5) Mrs. Charlotte Pierce.

What a shame that such noble women should have been so neglected. Here is the Resolution that I had passed at the State Medical Society at Reading in May, 1891, in reference to having women in the "Board of Public Charities" of the State:

"Resolved, That a committee be appointed by the President of this society to appeal to the Governor to fill the first vacancy which shall occur in the Board of Public Charities by the appointment of an enlightened and philanthropic woman."

June 25: Thursday.

Morning, 5 o'clock. It is now a whole week since I have written. Last Saturday, Mary and Carrie Cresson went to New Hope on a visit of a couple of weeks. Bertha Yocum [sic] came up to stay with me and on Tuesday of this week Bertha Day also came, and they are having a fine time here. Cherries are plenty & they take their fill of them.

Editor's note: Dr. Corson usually writes "Yocom" and only occasionally "Yocum."

We began to cut grass on Monday and today we will have all the field back of the barn nicely in, without rain.

Have had many letters in the time, six [in] Tuesday evening's mail.

Learned last evening by letter from Senator Markley that there is no prospect of Gov. Pattison appointing women on the Board of Public Charities. The members are opposed. The charges of Cruelty against Dr. Curwen's management were given by Senator Sloan at the end of the Legislative session to "Cad" Biddle of the Board, and he will keep them from publicity.

June 26: Friday.

Yesterday I left home at 2 P.M. to go to Conshohocken where I was to meet Thos. Yocom, my gd. son who was to take me to the "Stroll over Wood Mont farm and other farms of Alan Wood." More than 100 of his friends (men) have been invited to a Reception from 3 ½ to 5 P.M., then the "Stroll."

I had some business to do about the town before seeing Thomas, and while I was in Esq. Smith's office receiving rents, palp. struck me, so I came home. It cont'd. on me from 3 P.M. when it occurred until eleven P.M. at night, seven hours. I did not sleep well after it went off. I went into a cold bath-water, not very cold, and instantly it went off.

Evening. Dr. Anna Lukens came from New York today, came up here to see Helen Hovenden & myself.

"The Stroll." There was a large crowd at the "Stroll" yesterday.

Death of Mrs. Cresson. A few weeks ago she stumbled and fell and broke her thigh bone, near to the hip-joint, just as "Mother" did. She has suffered greatly since and died on Friday last June 26th. This morning at 8 ½ o'clock we were at the house in 4th Av., Conshohocken, at Wm. Wright's, her son-in-law's house at the funeral. It is just about 60 years since I first became acquainted with her. She was then Mary Leedom, daughter of Jos. Leedom of Phila. and was soon after married to James Cresson of Phila. Five carriages took her children (and John Cresson's family) and her gd. children to Laurel Hill, leaving Conshohocken at 9 ½ A.M. It was a cool, pleasant day for June. In all over 60 years of pretty close intimacy, we were always good friends. She was a kind, good woman.

July 4: Saturday.

10 ½ A.M. All alone. Not a person about the house but myself. Mary is at New Hope. Bertie Day and Bertie Yocom out at Plymouth, Tildie, the woman "help" gone to the City, to Girard College, to see her son Charley Haight. The man, Ellwood, "gone to see 4th of July."

July 7: Tuesday.

Had two short spells of palp. today, about half an hour each, but otherwise I am very, very well.

July 8: Wednesday.

We are making hay pretty strongly, or rather were until last evening. We are now having a much valuable rain.

July 9: Thursday.

9 P.M. Have had palp. from 10 A.M. until one P.M., three hours. Quite well since and have been overseeing the hay-making. While riding about this evening, I looked over the Valley from the top of Cold Point Hill, at the entrance to Thomas Freas' woods, and the prospect was charming. Never had it seemed to me so beautiful.

My two grand-daughters, Bertha Day & Bertha Yocom are having a delightful time "keeping house" for me while daughter is on a visit to her "Aunt Harriet M. Foulke," in New Hope.

Bardsley, the City Treasurer, is now in the Penitentiary for 15 years. Oh! how sad he must be, and his wife and children and friends, how they must suffer!! Had he died when young, or even a year ago, what regrets would have been felt and expressed and yet what a blessing it would have been to his family, and what an exemption from suffering to himself.

July 10: Friday.

Fine "hay-day." Got in several loads of good Timothy. I rode up & down to the field, the Conshohocken field, to direct the workmen.

July 11: Saturday.

Still at the hay; two very brief spells of palp. At home all day.

July 12: Sunday.

Noon. At 6 A.M. after getting awake, but still in bed, palp. struck me. Got up, took a rapid drink of water almost too warm to be called cold water, and in an instant the attack was over. Went to bed again (as it was Sunday) and at 6 while lying on my back, it, the palp. came again. Many times it has occurred when after a night's good rest. I have cont'd. to lie a while on my back awake. So my usual way is to get up as soon as I awaken. This time it lasted me till 8 o'clock, 2 hours.

Thomas Yocom came here from Consho. before breakfast and while I was still suffering, the two Berthas not then up.

The country is beautiful now, the weather all last week truly delightful, and people all alive to these conditions, are going to & fro on countless "excursions" and to picnics, summer resorts, &c., &c.

P.M. I went to Meeting at 10 A.M.; very few there as many had gone to the funeral of Mrs. Martha Conard, widow of Nathan and daughter of John Meredith and wife. The latter was a Lukens, daughter of Seneca, whose son Isaac was a friend and contemporary of David Rittenhouse and engaged in philosophical pursuits.

The meeting was short but we waited for the arrival of the funeral, and I had the almost melancholy pleasure of meeting many friends whom I had not seen for many years, but oh! how changed in appearance by Father Time.

July 15: Wednesday.

7 ½ A.M. Since Sunday we were one day at the Hay. The next it rained, so that we could not do much, but at 4 P.M., I took Mary to Norristown and left her at Tacie's while I went on to Dr. E. M. Corson's office, then with him to the great Hospital for the insane where I had been invited to join others at supper in Dr. Bennett's rooms. At 6 P.M. we were at it. Those present were Dr. Bennett, the chief physician for the female insane; Dr. Taylor and Dr. Welsh her assistants; Dr. Anna Kugler, once an assistant there, now just ready to return to India where for years she has been a Medical Missionary, and a lady who has also been there several years engaged in educating the natives; both of these will leave for India four weeks from this time; Mr. Thomas Hovenden and wife the Artists, and Miss Ida Corson, sister to Mrs. Hovenden, both of whom are my nieces; Mr. John Slingluff, one of the Trustees, and Mr. West, the Steward; also Miss Wetherill whose portrait is being painted by Mr. Hovenden, and who went to the Hospital with them; finally myself was one of the guests.

We had a pleasant time. Mary & self got home at 9 ½ P.M. The evening was beautiful & pleasant, as it was moonlight.

July 16: Thursday.

At half past 12 (midnight) I was attacked by palp. and had it two hours.

Afterwards could not sleep, so got up at 4 ½. At 5 started over Schuylkill to get a man to help with the hay. Got home at 6:20 A.M.

At 9 P.M. I can write that I have done much today, been engaged in many things.

July 18: Saturday.

7 A.M. Yesterday and the day before I had many letters to write in reply to letters received about my last paper "Antiseptics." It is greatly approved. Dr. Sutton, Pittsburgh's great aseptic surgeon, and Dr. Joseph Price, Phila.'s great surgeon have both sent me their writings on "aseptic surgery" and Dr. Sutton has sent a long letter in answer to mine in which I requested him to not use antiseptics in any way. He wishes me to consent that both letters shall be published in the Med. & Surg. Reporter. I have assented to it.

In an instant after I awoke this morning at 5 o'clock, I was struck by palp. and now at 7 A.M. it is still on me. Whether I read and wrote too much yesterday and rode too little I don't know. But it is annoying to have it on me so often. The cold water frequently fails to take it off now.

Yesterday afternoon a lady, Miss Lillie Schlater, whose father and mother I used to know thirty years ago, came from Powell Child's to see me. Her home is in Connecticut (New Haven) where she is a teacher. She greeted me thus, "Doctor Corson you do not know me, but I know you, for I have heard so much about you from father and mother, and I want to take you by the hand and express my respect for you because of what you have done for women." She was profuse in her gratitude for what I had done and seemed to be well informed on what I had done for female physicians too. I gave her two of my pamphlets and a photograph as she so much desired them all.

I had finished the last page and read a portion of the autobiography of Charles Kirk, then threw myself down on the lounge when in a moment the palpitation disappeared, just as the clock struck eight.

July 22: Wednesday.

Palp. 15 minutes after breakfast; went off "of itself." Yesterday, Cousin Nancy Search and her husband, Abraham Search were here on a visit. Spent most of the day with them very pleasantly.

This forenoon I have not ridden except to the lot to see the men, and to the mail. At 2 P.M. I was in Norristown to attend the Co. Med. Society; a good meeting. Reached home at 6 P.M. Distributed some of my pamphlets on "Antiseptics in Midwifery."

My paper on Antiseptics was read in the (Section of Practice of Med. and Gynecology) of the American Med. Association at its meeting May 9th, 1891, in Washington. Early in June it was one of the first papers published in the Association's Medical Journal and was republished in N. York Medical Times. I had 100 reprints with covers sent to me, and it was of them that I gave to some of the young physicians today.

July 25: Saturday.

Yesterday I was very well and quite busy getting my books and pamphlets, especially the latter, arranged so that I can lay my hands on them without much trouble, yet I had three attacks of palp., all of which were stopped by the cold water almost instantly on drinking it.

Susan and Frannie were here on visits to Mary and self. Ellwood made nearly ½ barrel of cider. Apples [are] plenty.

July 28: Tuesday.

It seemed too cool for even my black “summer treads,” so I put on my winter coat. We have had a very pleasant week, now and then light rain, weather very pleasant.

July 30: Thursday.

Mary went with me this morning to see Henry Schlater. When we returned at 11 o’clock, we found Son Joseph and daughter Susan Lukens here. Jos. had come from Washington yesterday and staid at Jawood Lukens all night.

In the afternoon he and I went to Norristown. It was very rainy. Joseph and Ellwood had a pleasant talk for an hour or more.

After supper I had a palp. but a glass of ice-water put it back. Just after 9 ½ o’clock it attacked me again, but the ice-water failed to stop it. I said nothing to Joseph about it, and we went to bed, but not to the same one. It, the palp., held me about one hour.

Had three letters in the evening, three in the morning. Read part of Prof. Hiram Corson’s Ogontz “Address to the young ladies” to Joseph, “what does, what knows, what is,” a book almost too spiritual for me to read understandingly. After nine P.M. to bed.

July 31: Friday.

Jos. & self went to Consho. on small business matters. Home before noon. After dinner, we went to Ambler to see a man who owes me interest. From there to Penllyn to see the old Foulke Home from whence 57 years & 8 months and five days ago, Hiram Corson and Nancy Foulke started to Phila. to get married. It is all dismantled now. The house a wreck, such as dirty negligent tenants can make one; a number of tenants houses built back of the old home; the Mill dismantled; the Race filled; the Yard filled with weeds; cart roads around & through it. It was a sorry sight, where once all was neatness and beautiful surroundings. We left the place with memories, some sad, some pleasing filling our minds, and were soon at Henry Schlater’s for whom, poor old man, I prescribed and then left for home, where we arrived before six P.M.

August 5: Wednesday.

Since last writing, have been entertaining Joseph, though I have also had several attacks of palp. to put back by drinking ice water.

Joseph left for home today.

August 6: Thursday.

Went to Norristown, reached there at 9 A.M. Dr. E. M. Corson took me in his two horse carriage to the Hospital. There we took in Dr. Alice Bennett and went to the funeral of Dr. John Schrack. There were many doctors, members of our Society there.

He was buried in their private grave yard, near the house. We took some dinner there afterwards and just as I left the house after dinner, I got palp. Said not a word about it till we reached Norristown. Then the ice water did not stop it; came home, took a rapid drink of cold water and it disappeared instantly, [had lasted] 2 hours.

August 8: Saturday.

It is now 5 P.M. Therm. 84°. I have been to Conshohocken on some business matters and to see how daughter Susan is, a brief time also with Dr. Highley's family, a call on Dr. Beaver & on Dr. Seiple, then to Barren Hill, &c., &c., till 11 ½. A.M.

This P.M. have been nearly the whole time with the man and boy, to direct their movements in straightening up things. Have written letters to Bertha and Frannie, &c., sent apples to Tacie, did some reading, &c.

Two visits to a poor woman in the village, exhausted with work to keep her fatherless children. [She] was supposed to be dying last night, had had a doctor for two weeks, but he is now away.

Letter from Joseph yesterday, [arrived] safe at home.

August 9: Sunday.

2 P.M. One of the "papers" read in the "Section on Practice of Medicine and Physiology" at the 42nd annual meeting of the Am. Med. Association at Washington, D.C. May 5, 6, 7 and 8th, 1891, is by J. W. Small of New York, (with many titles) and is entitled, "The Treatment of the First Stage of Acute Lobar Pneumonia."

After reading it today, I wrote to him and I here copy that letter as I think, if he should not reply to me that I will write to the Am. Assoc. Journal a criticism of it.

Such writers who have probably not seen half a dozen cases of pneumonia are dangerous. My letter will be found in next page.

Letter to Dr. Small about his "Paper on Pneumonia."

Aug. 9, 1891

J. W. Small, M.D.

I have before me the paper you read before the "Section on Practice of Medicine and Physiology" in the recent meeting of Am. Med. Assoc. at Washington, and feel impelled to say a word to you about it.

After giving an excellent description of the condition of the lung in the early stage of the disease, which you regard as a local congestion and inflammation, you say, "Is there no way to bring relief to the overburdened Lung, except the one which Nature adopts?" and you reply, "There is, if done before the alveoli and bronchi are filled with inflammatory products." And the means that you recommend, "are those which stimulate the venous and arterial capillary blood vessels upon the surface of the body." The treatment which you then recommend is that which in the early part of the century was in vogue in treating many diseases, notably eruptive diseases, and which punished the sick fearfully.

But you speak of "good results recently obtained from 15 yrs. of Antipyrin used once," but confess that "the repetition is apt to produce great depression." Many practitioners have seen unpleasant results from even five grain doses and would be afraid to use 10 grs. Your one big dose, too, while tolerated by some might be dangerous to others. Your dose is evidently an unsafe one, as you think it dangerous to repeat it; and even if it were not, it is not adapted to the relief of the difficulty in a real case, only perhaps in a simulated one.

But as I have no experience with Antipyrin and Tinct. Aconite in

this affection, I am bound to take your word that it is a good means of cure.

In speaking of vs [blood-letting] as a remedy, you say it is not claimed to abort the disease, but simply to “modify it.” Why, my dear doctor, you must be very young in “Practice,” or else you have not read much on this subject. Again you say, “To the employment of vs, in any form, I should have serious objections, as I consider it a measure calculated to produce extreme prostration of the system by depriving it of what little vital fluid is left, after the depletion by the disease, and after the commencement of the second stage I regard it as positively dangerous.” Now, doctor, I think it is likely that you never have bled a patient in any stage of this disease. Do let me hear from you, if you have. If you have not, and even if you have, you assume a responsibility in that declaration, which you ought not to lay on yourself. It may cause some one to hesitate to relieve a sufferer & result in his death. You have doubtless seen the testimony given by eminent men of N. York declaring that they knew no means so efficient to relieve the condition you refer to, also the same from Pennsylvania’s most eminent men, who have had half a century’s experience with the remedy.

With Kindest regards I am, very respectfully

Hiram Corson

Plymouth Meeting P.O., Pa.

2 ½ P.M. The hired man and hired woman and two little children have gone to Germantown in our carriage, and only Mary and myself are at home. I have written the letter to Dr. Small and have written the copy of it on this other side since dinner.

August 11: Tuesday.

Noon. 93° F. It is fearfully hot; was the same yesterday, 93° F. Took a bath at bed-time last evening. Slept well till midnight, then again till 3 ½ this A.M. When awake and after looking at the clock and feeling as well and comfortable as ever in my life, I was struck with palp. Had no ice in the house, went down to the Cistern and drank heavily; did no good, and it went beating on. At sunrise the man went to a neighbor’s for ice. I drank of it, the water, rapidly & much, of no avail. So it went on till 7 ½ A.M. It was only five days ago that I had it 2 hours, after taking dinner at Dr. Schrack’s funeral.

The great heat today and having had a palp. have caused me to feel indisposed to much exertion. Yet I have had the man and little boys, who lie in my house near by and who are daily here, helping, and eating pears, apples, &c., pretty busy cleaning the yard and other places where foul matters might be.

August 13: Thursday.

I am crippled in the small of the back (Lumbago) and in the right hip, so that when I rise to walk, the attempt to walk seems as if my back would be broken. Have not gone abroad today.

Yesterday the whole population, save Quakers, were off to an excursion to “Neshoming,” 750 of them in 15 cars. So, Mary & [self] were alone save that Carrie Cresson came down today with us. It is now six o’clock P.M., and I have sent away to

friends many of my recent pamphlets on Antiseptics in Midwifery, and have written and rec'd. a good many letters.

August 16: Sunday.

Seven A.M. Therm. 65° F. Slept fairly well. Rheumatism or rather Neuralgia [is] bearable. Up early.

Bertha Yocom Sen. [is] here, came Friday evening.

August 23: Sunday.

I was surprised on opening the book to find that I had not written for a week. It arose mainly from the fact that I had written during the time to Joseph, Bertha & Frannie and told them what I was doing and had told Tacie & Susan. The week was a busy one and full of interest.

Spent Thursday at the Hospital with Dr. Ulrich and Ellwood Corson & three ladies. We dined with Dr. Bennett, had a hard day, was so weary, I could not sleep. Was several times in Norristown, trying to trade a house, but was afraid to do it, when at last the man came to my terms.

Col. Wills of Nashville, Tennessee, brought his wife and other ladies to see me. He is son of my friends Wm. and Betsy Wills.

Evening. I went to the Cemetery this P.M. to see graves of Follen and wife and "Uncle" (brother) William. Had Charley Day with me. Called on my way home to see Dr. Speer and wife, Speer of U.S.N. and a friend of Edward. Read & wrote much last week.

August 25: Tuesday.

7 A.M. One among the seven letters rec'd. yesterday is from Mirna Read, widow of my nephew Joseph Corson Read, son of Sister Sarah. She says that her son is on his way, via the sea, to New York to visit me and get me to aid him to do something for himself, or to get him better educated. He will likely be here today. Strange that she should send him without first getting my consent, but I will receive the boy kindly and do what I can for him.

August 26: Wednesday.

Awakened last night at 10 ½ o'clock with palp., got up and as the ice water in the pitcher was still pretty cold, about like the common drinking water, I took a very large quantity, but no good effect; lay down ¼ of an hour, drank again; no result. [Had] pain in the stomach, diarrhoea. In half hour took ice-water; no better. Went to bed at ½ past 2 A.M.; it left.

During the past two weeks scarcely a day has passed that I have not had one or more attacks of palpitation, but put them off by the ice-water, when I could have it soon, at once. The am't. of rain we have had this season is very large.

I have had several interesting letters today, have written but three. Have had a good deal of business on hand.

A letter from Richard Day on Monday announced [the] birth of a son, Frannie pretty well, &c.

August 30: Sunday.

8 P.M. Have been very well the past week and very busy with reading, writing, receiving and answering letters, attending to various pecuniary and other matters.

Have had several palpitations, put away by ice water. Last night, midnight, was attacked, had no ice-water, and it lasted till 6 o'clock this morning. Slept after that. After getting up and breakfast over at 8 A.M., I wrote steadily till 10 when palp. struck me, and as I had no ice, the common water did me no good. The ice water took it off at once after it had lasted 3 hours. Since then I have been busy writing and reading, wrote several pages of my autobiography, also a letter to Bertha; one to Dr. Duff, one to Dr. Forwood, one to Dr. Lyman Beecher Todd.

Joseph Read, son of my nephew Joseph Corson Read, arrived from Fernandina, Florida today. When Mary and I returned from Norristown at 5 P.M., he came out to meet us.

I had been attacked by palp. just before I reached home, and as I could not get the cold water till I got there, the ice water when I got it did not arrest it. It went beating on for two hours. It is now too dark to see the lines so will close.

September 4: Friday.

7 P.M. After I rec'd. his mother's letter a week or more ago, I set about looking for a place for him. I saw in the newspaper that some one wanted a boy about 17 years old to learn the drug business. I went to see about it, found the man, told him about Josie. He agreed to give him \$100 for the first year, \$200 for the second, \$300 for the third, pay for his tickets at the College of Pharmacy and the graduation tickets. He find his own board and car fare. We agreed. He will go on Monday next.

Was at Norristown & Conshohocken yesterday & today arranging for Josie and doing many other things.

Elihu Roberts and Miss Isabella Webster were married yesterday in Phila. I did not go as I was too busy getting the place for Josie Read. His father's brother and Sister's would not do anything for him or for his mother, but now that I have got this place for him, they feel that he will not have to be kept by them and they seem anxious to make his acquaintance.

September 9: Wednesday.

Yesterday I went with Dr. Oscar Leedom & his mother, and Ida & Emily Corson and Thomas Hovenden to Bucks County to show the Leedom's the old homestead of Dr. Oscar's gt. gd. father Richard Leedom, and to show Ida her gt. gd. parents (Benjn. Corson & Maria Sedam, who were married in 1742) home and Emily's gt. gt. gd. parents home. Both these homes being the Leedom's in Addisville and the Corsons from ¼ to ½ mile below it. The first lane that leads to a house on the left hand side (as you go to Southampton) immediately after you cross the bridge about ¼ mile below the Black Bear Tavern.

After having had dinner and showing them these places, we went to the little Huguenot grave yard near the White Bear Tavern, and then to the Baptist Church & grave yard in Southampton, where these good old gd. parents are buried. We saw the tombstones of both of them. We also saw the tomb stone of my gt gd. father Joseph Dungan, which has on it the following inscription, and [I] took these notes Sep. 8, 1891.

“In Memory of Joseph Dungan (Grandson of Rev’d Thomas Dungan who came from Rhode Island in 1684 and was buried at Cole Spring in 1688). Died August 25th 1785, aged 75 years 6. Mo. 25 days.” Also “Mary Dungan, Relict of Joseph Dungan died April 25th 1788, aged 78 years 2 months” These [are] my gt. gd. Parents. She was Mary Ohl.

The following copied by Ida as I stood by her side, from tombs of Benjn. & Maria Sedam Corson, my gt. gd. parents.

“Benjn. Corson died in 1774, aged 55 years”

“Maria Sedam Corson, died Feb. 15, 1772 aged 71 years 3 mo. 4 days.”

These were my gd. parents. The boy who was 7 years old in 1726 when his father came from Staten Island, bringing him along. He and gd. mother Maria Sedam were married in 1742 (my gd. parents).

The Du-Bois’s.

On two large flat-marble monuments we found the following inscription. One was “Rev’d Jonathan Du-Bois Pastor of the Low Dutch Reformed Church

Died Dec. 16, 1772, aged 45 years.”

The other reads, “Here lies the body of Susannah Du-Bois Wynkoop, the amiable consort of Henry Wynkoop esq. She died August 25th 1776, aged 35 years a melancholy victim to the Public Calamities of America.”

These should have preceded the Du-Bois & Wynkoop Records, so as to have my relatives together.

“In Memory of Benjamin Corson who departed this life October 2nd 1811, aged 68 years, 7 mos. and 36 days.”

“In Memory of Sarah Corson wife of Benjamin Corson who departed this life July the 2nd A.D. 1811, aged 68 years 10 months and 8 days.”

September 12: Saturday.

7 A.M. Since the above visit to Bucks Co., I have busied myself with various supposed duties and in reading and writing, &c., nothing special.

September 13: Sunday.

Read Friends Intelligencer, some medicine and wrote considerably before 10 A.M. Then went to Friends Meeting to rest myself and have a little chat with old acquaintances.

Staid at home all the afternoon to write an article for the “Phila. Press” on the difficulty in the Harrisburg Hospital for the Insane, great charges of Cruelty having been made against the Superintendent, who has been removed. Ten years ago while one of the Board of Trustees, I aided in his appointment, because he promised to appoint a female physician for the female insane. While I was writing, Mr. James Hoover, his wife and wife’s mother called to see me; staid half an hour. Again I went to work, had been at it but a short time when Dr. Speer U.S. Navy & son and Dr. Leedom came and spent another hour. So I did not get my paper finished.

I forgot to say that I took daughter Mary to Bryn Mawr on Saturday afternoon to deliver to Mrs. Dr. Gorham Sargeant [Sargent] the resolution passed by the Montgom’y Co. Med. Soc. after his decease. They were beautifully written and engrossed. I was

Chairman of the Committee. I delivered them and was warmly thanked by Mrs. Sargeant.

September 14: Monday.

Sent for to a case of St. Vitus Dance. I am considered to be a specialist in that disease. In the afternoon had business in Norristown.

Daughter Susan Lukens went to the warm Sulphur Springs of Virginia. She has had chronic Neurologia & Rheumatism.

September 18: Friday.

Yesterday Prof. Hiram Corson, my nephew from Cornell University, his sister Mrs. Clarrisa Sholl and her daughter Anna, called to see us= Mary & myself. We met them as we were coming home from Consho. & they were going home. They arranged to come up today to take dinner, then go to Mr. Hovenden's to tea. So, this morning I went to Consho. & brot Hiram home with me, the ladies not being able to come. He was very interesting in his conversation. At 3 P.M. I took him and Mary to see Helen, Ida & Mr. Hovenden. They had quite a number of relatives and friends there. Hiram had taken Mary with him. Thomas Yocom & myself went over in the evening. After coming home at 9 o'clock, we remained up talking until 10 ½ P.M.

He has been very desirous today to learn about my Genealogical record of the Corson family.

September 19: Saturday.

This morning at 8 ½ I took Hiram to Consho. expecting to go on with him to Bryn Mawr and return by 12 o'clock, so as to go to meet Miss Clarrisa Lathrop of Albany, N. York, at Norristown, take her to the Hospital for Insane; then bring her home. At Consho. I got palp. that lasted half an hour. Prof. Corson got pain in his shoulder and in other places, so did not go further. Left him at his Sister's, and I came home. After dinner went to meet Miss Lathrop. She did not come to Norristown before 4 P.M. So, I then came home.

September 21: Monday.

I went to Norristown early this morning and while at John J. Corson's office, Miss Lathrop, who was coming from the Hospital where she had been since Saturday evening, was told by the person with her that the carriage was mine. So, she came in. O brought her home with me, and we had quite a pleasant evening, she, Mary, Thomas Yocom & self.

September 22: Tuesday.

Miss Lathrop left here this morning. She is passing through the States to get Societies formed, auxiliary to the N. York Society or independent of it, as is deemed best, to prevent sane persons from being kidnapped and to rescue persons who are sane, those who never were insane, and those who having been insane [and] have recovered, from being kept in hospitals.

She is a power, once forced into a hospital for insane.

September 23: Wednesday.

Up early, 5 ½ A.M. The weather was intensely warm yesterday. Now at 8 A.M., Therm. 80° F., but I felt that I must go to the City.

I went at 10:10 from Sp. Mill, Pa. road. When we arrived in Phila., I went straight to Dr. Thos. George Morton's office, Chestnut St., below Broad & 15th. I found him & Dr. Henry M. Wetherill, both of whom I wished to see about the cruelties charges against the Harrisburg Hospital. When we separated after a brief talk, they to go to Harrisburg, this being the day of investigating the matter by the Board of Public Charities and the Committee on Lunacy of which latter Morton is President and Wetherill Secretary. Morton asked me if I went to see Mr. Mahlon Dickinson to tell him to stand by the Com. on Lunacy.

I went direct to 1224 Chestnut, their office. There I found my Kinsman Mahlon H. and his fellow member of the Board of Public Charities, Mr. Biddle, Mr. D. being President. Had a talk of a few minutes with them and said to each of them separately, "I hope that the Board of Public Charities will stand up boldly in support of its own Committee on Lunacy." They said they "would try to do what is right." I sincerely hope they will. They had to hurry to take the 11:40 train. Each read [the] letter from Governor Pattison while I was there. Tomorrow they are to meet & act.

September 24: Thursday.

I have written to Susan, Bertha, Frannie & Joseph about my offer.

September 25: Friday.

Did a good many useful things today.

September 26: Saturday.

Still busy writing papers for the Newspapers.

September 27: Sunday.

Today rose early. Very busy arranging my papers and finishing those which I wanted to publish as soon as the examination of the Hospital at Harrisburg is completed, until 10 ½ A.M. when Jawood Lukens and Thomas Yocom came. They had been in but a few minutes when Dr. E. A. Wood of Pittsburgh walked in. Dr. L. W. Read had kindly sent him down with his two horse team. I was glad to see him. He is a warm friend to me. He had come up from Phila. He would not take dinner, "had breakfast late, at the La-Fayette." At 4 P.M. after an agreeable few hours with him, he left for Phil. Tomorrow he will lunch with Horatio Wood. He wants me to come down and go with him to see Dr. Morton & others of our friends.

Just as I reached home from Spring Mill where I had taken Dr. E. A. Wood, Theodore & Mrs. Search arrived. He is the son of my Cousin Nancy Richard Corson. He is a fine "smart" man. They staid but about one hour. Mrs. Search fearing the night air wished to get home soon. Since they left, just before 6 P.M., Mary & self have been alone. I must now write some letters to mail early tomorrow morning.

9 P.M. Since last writing to Robert R. Corson last Wednesday after my return from Phila., I rec'd. a letter from him expressing his gratification on my proposition that Emily come to live with us. She is at an expense now, in board, nurse's wages & board,

and Dr. bill, Robert thinks of about seventy dollars per week. Her income is barely enough, if enough to support herself in health. No nurse at \$15 per week, and as much for board, and a Dr. \$25 a week, and Robert and others must help her now. Should she come here, she would have only the nurse's wages to pay.

September 28: Monday.

Yesterday just as Dr. Wood took leave of me to take the train, palp. struck me. I stepped into the Station-house, took a tumbler full of ice-water and at once it stopped its curvetting and went forward in a steady walk. I have had them daily for a week or two but every time put off by the ice water save once, before this time, the past week.

Have just sent off three letters, one to Dr. Wood written just now, one to Susan to Warm Springs of Va., and one to Benny Hughes of Norristown, written last evening.

September 29: Tuesday.

6 P.M. Rose at 5 A.M. and went in the carriage to see my niece Helen Hovenden start for the 6 ½ train to Phila. with her children, on her way to England. Her husband Thomas Hovenden went with the baggage to New York yesterday. When I got out to Helen's (the old home of her father, my brother George Corson, and before him, of her grand father Samuel Maulsby), the house seemed all shut up, but I could hear a tapping as of one pounding. I called, but no answer came. I went to the back-Kitchen window and there the girl seemed to be getting breakfast slowly. She said Helen was upstairs fastening down the windows. Soon, I had her down, also Ida and the children, all dressed, had only to eat breakfast and wait for Emily Corson, Elias Hicks Corson's daughter, who was to go with them to N. York and return with Ida, Helen's sister. So I went home and soon they came along, and Helen came in and took leave of me and received my farewell, spoken out, & the farewell of Lady Byron, as it passed through my mind,

"Fare thee well! And if forever,
Still for ever fare thee well.
And E'en though unforgiving, never
'gainst thee shall my heart rebel,"

though we never had any thing to forgive. Never a dispute; never unkind feelings.

How greatly Mary and myself shall miss her! Her robust heartiness, her open, generous disposition, her ever readiness to add to our comfort, endeared her to us. May a Kind Providence bless and protect her and her family.

I did not go away today. A fine rain. A carriage load of ladies came just as it began, from Norristown.

At 4 P.M. after they left, palp. struck me, lasted till 5 ½ = 1 ½ hours. During that 1 ½ hours, I wrote three long letters. Now it is 7 ½ P.M.

September 30: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Up at 6 A.M. Rode to Harmanville lot to get a man for the day.

After breakfast at seven, I wrote, or rather re-wrote a paper for the Med. & Surg. Reporter, then went to Norristown to take some things for Tacie, see Josie Read, have hair and whiskers trimmed, &c., &c.

After dinner, went to see Mrs. Dager, an old friend who wished to have my advice about a very sore leg. From there to Mr. Prefontaine's to see his boy, son, with Chorea. He is taking the fl'd. Ext. Cimicifuge Racemosa, Black Snake Root. The people in this region think I am a genius, or a wizard so certain can I cure St. Vitus Dance.

From thence I went to James Ganan's to collect a bill, as it was on my way home. His daughter was anxious that I should prescribe for her, bad cough, pain in breast, &c. Examined and found the peculiar crepitus in the left lung that indicates incipient tuberculosis; prescribed for her.

Home by 5 P.M. Before six came a poor woman to get certificate of death of husband, now dead nine years, to get pension for being in the three months "call to arms" in 1861, 30 years ago. Left it late. Could not give certificate as I kept no account against him and don't remember that I attended him in last illness.

After supper read one of two pamphlets sent by Doctors. Am ready for bed, but will read half hour or so.

October 1: Thursday.

9 P.M. Much cooler, about 50° F. At 1 ½ o'clock this morning awoke, got up and looked at the watch; went to bed well as usual. Was comfortable when palpitation struck me. I drank heavily of the ice water, which I had at hand; no good effect. Tried it twice more before day light. It held on till 12 ½ P.M. = eleven hours. As I had no appetite & the palp. cont'd. so long, I felt miserable enough. After it left me, I was attacked 3 times more before bed time, 9 P.M., but every time a resort to a tumblerful of iced water arrested it.

October 2: Friday.

9 P.M. Had no palp. last night. Would have had it, I think, if I had not taken Brown's Ginger & Paregoric on going to bed last night.

Rec'd. letters and medical pamphlets. Am reading and answering them. This morning we have hundreds of bushels of apples; have made 15 Brls Cider and sold some apples.

The spells of palpitation are becoming a serious matter. I will try taking some paregoric & Tct. Ginger two or more times daily. Oh! there is so much to read, so good too, that I can't let it unread.

October 3: Saturday.

Took Tinct. Ginger, tea spoonful in water three times today. No palpitations. Was very busy, looking up interest due me Oct. first. Overhauled all my papers in the Box, in Old Montgomery Bank.

Visited Mrs. Martha Dager who has a very sore leg and as she is an old friend, I do it for her.

October 4: Sunday.

A beautiful morning. Pleasant, a fine cloudless sky, bright sun, Temp. 65° F., with grass & foliage of trees green and luxuriant as in the fullness of Spring can make it. Of such a morning as I have described on last page, the poet Boker says,

“With song of Birds and hum of bees,
And odorous breath of swinging flowers,
With fluttering herbs and swaying trees,
Begin the early morning hours.

The warm tide of the southern air
swims round with gentle rise and fall,
And burning through a golden glare,
The sun looks broadly over all.

So fair and fresh the landscape stands,
So vital, so beyond decay,
It looks as though God’s shaping hands
Had just been raised and drawn away.

The holy baptism of the rain
Yet lingers like a special grace;
For I can see an aureole plain
About the world’s transfigured face.

The moments come in dreamy bliss,
In dreamy bliss they pause & pass;
It seems not hard on days like this,
Dear Lord, to lie beneath the grass.”

Took a nap after dinner, and at 3 P.M. went to see a woman, wife of a pedantic but do-nothing doctor, whose little girl of 13 came for me yesterday, “to see mother.” Taking Mary with me, I went. He met me at the door, when I knocked, went up-stairs to call his wife. She came down looking well. I began to ask what she wanted with me, when she held up her hand in token of silence. She did not want me to speak loud, did not want him to know that she had sent for me.

She said he has done nothing of consequence for their support since last April. So, she has determined if possible to get at some business, will do anything that she can do. Thinks of a boarding house, so that she can live and continue her two children at school. Knew of no one to consult, who would listen to or aid her but me. She can’t even now do her own washing. They have but little furniture, no money. How could she, weak and unable to work as she is, “keep boarders.” I pitied her sincerely. Her husband was always too proud to have her do it. Her mother, a good family in Ohio, also opposed. So now does not want them to know that she is looking for a place. He borrowed \$2 ½ of me weeks ago which were to be returned, but have not been, never will be. I see no chance to do anything for her, but will think about it.

Jawood Lukens was here at 11, staid till 12 noon. Says Susan was taken with severe neuralgic pain after Ada left there last Friday. Joseph was telegraphed to go on at once. Jawood written to. Joseph went on and Jay rec’d. a telegram that they were on the way home, to Washington. Tomorrow we may hear more.

At 4 P.M. Thomas Yocom & Alan Lukens came to see us; staid an hour.

At intervals today, when not interrupted, busy in looking over my history of our family.

October 5: Monday.

At 20 min. after two o'clock this morning I was attacked by palp., after lying awake for half an hour, previously having slept well. It lasted me despite three attempts to rid myself of it by large draughts of ice water. At 20' of five o'clock it went off just as I threw my legs out of bed to get up.

It was away half an hour in which time I dressed myself & came down stairs and lay down on the lounge. Then it came again and now, at 15' after six, I have it on me as I write this. At 20 minutes after seven it went off again. Had it a little over an hour this last time.

October 6: Tuesday.

10 P.M. This morning at 9 o'clock I was in the carriage ready to start for Horsham to attend the funeral of Justus Mitchell, son of Dr. Gove Mitchell with whom I was intimate sixty years ago. I had the Doctor made an honorary member of our Medical Society a few years before his death. Justus was a fine man. I have not seen him though for full forty years, but he is, except Robert Iredell, the last of the friends of my early manhood. It was the appointed hour, when I reached the Meeting House eleven o'clock. There were many there. I think I never was at a Friends funeral, where there was so few fine looking men & so few fashionably well dressed, handsome women. All were clean, comfortably dressed, but they were nearly all farmers, and greatly bronzed, and I was one of them.

David Newport preached, or rather spoke of the deceased as he had long known him. Then after a silence so deep that it seemed as though the noise and bustle of the world had forever ceased, Mrs. Charles Kirk "spoke" for 15 minutes, and she was followed by "Friend Haines." While standing near to the grave, I looked at the head stone that marked the grave on which I stood. It was that of "Cousin George Spencer" as "Mother" used to call him. There were three other stones in a row with his; his age was 89, Susan Spencer 88, his sister Mary Spencer, his wife, 89, Rebecca Spencer his sister 83, remarkable.

Coming home I stopped a while with Uncle Joshua Corson's gd. daughter, Mrs. Tease. Home before 4 P.M. Read till bed-time. Awake at 11 ½ P.M.

October 7: Wednesday.

At 12 exactly palp. seized me, cont'd. despite all I could do to stop it till five minutes of 4 A.M. Then left and I felt very comfortable for 25 minutes when it returned and continued until after breakfast, or till I was taking breakfast at 7 A.M. So I had it nearly seven hours.+

October 14: Wednesday.

For a whole week I have not written. During this time I have not had any palpitation that were not at once stopped by a glassful of ice-water. Indeed have had but two or three and have felt very well. I have been busy as usual.

One day I went to Phila. to do many little items. Went to see Henry Jones & wife in the "Gladstone." They at once sent out to Mrs. Jenks, the woman whom I recommended to the Governor to appoint a member of the B. P. Charities. She came in to see me and we had a very pleasant time. They showed me much embroidery done, under their supervision & by their advice, by the Insane in Blockley Alms House, now called Blockley Hospital. They were very beautiful.

And yesterday I went to Bryn Mawr and met with Maria Sargeant [Sargent], sister to Dr. Winthrop and Dr. Gorman, a lady now 85 years old and once an acquaintance of "Mother" = my wife. She is even yet a most sprightly lady. In her house too, I met Mrs. McClure, wife of Rev'd. McClure, who is also interested in the Insane at Blockley, and she showed me quite a great deal of embroidery done there. It is surprisingly beautiful. She will have a sale of it tomorrow, with the proceeds they buy comforts for the insane. Dr. Highley had taken me over there with his fine match'd Grays.

Every evening I pass in reading and writing till after 9 P.M.

October 15: Thursday.

At 9 A.M. I left home for Germantown. At 10:20 I was at Frank Bacon's, though it was so cloudy as I went until I began to enter Germantown that I feared rain and thought I perhaps ought to turn back.

Staid at Bacon's till 12 o'clock, talking with "Uncle Jesse and Aunt Hannah." Then went to Clapier Street to see Frannie Day & family. There found Mrs. Agnes Williams. Directly Mrs. Edward Wistar and a friend dropped in, then in a few minutes more, two other ladies. Soon Mrs. W. & friend left.

At half past one we had a good dinner and an old, hungry Corson partook of it without fearing Dyspepsia. H.C. He did not seem to dread it at all.

At 3 ½ left there and called to see, stopped to see Annie (Wistar) Haines, Lizzie Warner & Susan Comfort, "Aunt Priscilla's daughters. At 4 P.[M.] left for home, stopped at Barren Hill to see Mrs. Dager and prescribed for her. Home at six P.M.

October 21: Wednesday.

4 P.M. I was expecting to go today to meet Mrs. Jenks, Mrs. McClure and Mrs. Mary Yerkes Jones, by invitation of the last, at the Eastern Hospital that they might see its workings. But it was raining this morning and has kept at it all day, so, I did not go. These are three active philanthropic women who are attending three times a week to the insane at the old Phila. Hospital insane department. The old Alms House, it is. I have noticed their work on the last (opposite) page.

Since last writing nearly a week ago, I have had palpitations every day, but in every instance stopped them as soon as I could rapidly swallow a tumblerful of moderately cold ice water. When too very cold, could not swallow enough quickly to shock the system. All this time have been quite well and have done many things. Have written to Dr. Goodell an autobiography so far as my life work is concerned. Have reported to Dr. Horatio Wood of my palpitations. Wrote to daughter [daughter-in-law] Ada.

On my 88th birth-day I rec'd. a letter from George Parvin, son of some poor but good people whom I attended in Conshohocken many years ago. He has been a warm

friend during several years. He is now Janitor in the Woman's Homeopathic Hospital in Phila. I replied to him with many thanks.

October 28: Wednesday.

How rapid Old Time flies. A week has gone since last writing.

On Thursday 22nd, I was to have met Mrs. Jenks, Mrs. McClure and Mrs. Mary Y. Jones at the Eastern Hospital. I did not go because it was a stormy morning, and I feared also the toil of going all over that big place. I have done it before; know what it is.

Have been in the City to see my Kinsman Mahlon H. Dickinson, Drs. Morton & Wetherill about the Hospitals for Insane. Made some other visits to friends.

Yesterday got many letters, one from Dr. Bennett wanting me to send my portrait to her, and give her liberty to have it placed in front of the "Housekeeper's Weekly." Interesting correspondence with Dr. Goodell and also with Dr. Thomas and Dr. Forwood. Papers from Panama from Thos. Adamson.

October 30: Friday.

Yesterday busy as usual, doing nothing of consequence. Went in the afternoon to the Hospital to see Dr. Bennett. Took daughter Tacie Cresson with me after I got to Norristown. Dr. B. not at home. Went in to see Niece Hannah Corson, who is overseer of the female department, 942 in-door patients. Brought some ice for stopping my palp. if it should come. Had an attack just before bed-time. The ice-water stopped it at once.

Brot Carrie Cresson home with me to stay a few days as Mary expects to go to the City to stay [a] few days with Bertha this morning. Will go to City with Mary after breakfast.

Evening. We went. I went from Bertha's to University, got palp. before I reached there. Iced water would not then take it off. Went to Dr. Dolley's, then to see my old friend Prof. Stillé. He not at home; then with palp. on me started back to the City. Kept on in the Chestnut Street car to 1224, the office of the Board of Public Charities. Saw Mahlon H. Dickinson, the President, and got his copy of Dickinson Genealogy, which he paid Wharton Dickinson \$20 for. I want to make some corrections in Thomas Adamson's copy that he made for me. Went then to Bertha's, 749 S. Broad Street. There took a big, rapid drink of ice-water and instantly the palp. left me and I was well. Had it 2 ½ hours. If I could have had the ice-water within a few minutes, it would have left at once, as it has done at least twenty times in about 2 weeks.

November 1: Sunday.

Went to Quaker Meeting. Took Carrie Cresson. After dinner we paid a short visit to her mother & family and to Louisa Foulke, who is there.

9 P.M. Have been writing at various things all the evening, letters to Joseph too.

November 4: Wednesday.

Had palp. yesterday morning after breakfast. Ice-water stopped it instantly, so too at 5 this morning while in bed. Again the ice did it. Then at 7, it came again, and the ice-water, though I drank two full glasses of it, failed. Had it 2 ½ hours.

November 5: Thursday.

No palp. today. Went to Norristown to take Carrie who is the clerk, and Tacie who is a manager in the Woman's Auxiliary Society of the Charity Hospital.

November 6: Friday.

9 P.M. Carrie very busy all the forenoon copying the Dickinson Genealogy, and I as busy trying to complete the Corson and Dungan parts of mine.

After dinner we went to see Hannah Stout, one of the four patients whom I attend to. After seeing her, went around to see a friend at Blue Bell, reached Plymouth at 4:30 and was then struck with palp. Got home, took ice-water and instantly it ceased.

The above written after a palp.

November 7: Saturday.

I wrote till 9 P.M. last evening. Went to bed, slept as well as usual till 4:30 this morning, then palp. struck me. Took ice-water as soon as I could get it; it failed, and the palp. cont'd. till 5:45.

During the day I had none, but after I went to bed, I got it before midnight. The water stopped it. Brought Bertie Day from Jawood Lukens.

November 8: Sunday.

Bertie, Carrie & self quietly read from breakfast over till 10 A.M. when Susan & Jawood came up. After dinner it was so beautiful a day that I rode seven miles to Saml. Tyson's. Had a pleasant visit with him & his wife. Took tea with them. Home before seven P.M.

November 19: Thursday.

My Illness with Dysentery.

Seven o'clock P.M. I have just finished my supper, down stairs, the first part of a day since Monday Nov. 9th, the day after I came from Saml. Tyson's.

I felt slight sensation of coolness, scarcely chilliness, on Monday, but went up stairs to lie an hour or two as I intended, but I soon began to have pain in my stomach, attended by nausea and purging. By evening the pain was severe, the stools frequent and soon every pain was the herald to vomiting, which so weakened me directly that I could not stand on my limbs, and while on the "commode" in the 3rd story, I pitched head foremost on rising and was as helpless as a child. So the matters went on for about the rest of the night. When the vomiting did not attend the bloody evacuations, I prescribed for myself on Tuesday, and until the Wednesday morning when my Nephew Dr. E. M. Corson of Norristown and Dr. Alice Bennett of the Eastern Hospital, the chief female physician, who now has more than 950 female insane under her care, came to see me, bringing with them Dr. Bennett's "Head Nurse."

(Here I was stopped by a severe palpitation).

Dr. E. M. Corson took medical charge of me. Dr. Bennett despite my opinion that a nurse was not needed as I had Carrie Cresson and Frannie C. Yocom, my gd. daughters with me, and also a most capable woman cook & house-keeper, I say Dr. B. would and did leave the nurse. For four days the bloody dysenteric stools went on. The pain & other sufferings being held in check as well as persistent and heroic medication

could do it. Then we conquered. The bloody stools disappeared and I began to convalesce, and I began to have some comfort, could sleep a little, &c. The improvement has cont'd. Today at 2 P.M. I resolved as the nurse left yesterday and I have nothing ailing me but weakness of body and but little appetite, that I would be dressed and go down stairs (a letter from Joseph has just arrived, 7:20 P.M.)

November 20: Friday.

After reading Joseph's letter last evening and the "Evening Paper," I began a letter to Joseph but before I could finish it, was taken with palpitation which lasted me for eight hours, ending only at two ½ o'clock this morning. From that time I rested and slept till nearly eight this morning. It is quite a hard thing to bear the palpitation so long as I could lie only on my left side, and I was so weak that I felt that I ought to be on my back, so much easier position for me. However I bore it and got up to eat breakfast by the bed-side. At 10 A.M. came down stairs and remained till after dinner, which was a little delayed by my nephew Dr. Lewis Wernwag Read paying me a brief visit.

After dinner slept till 2 ½ P.M.; then came down and for the first time since the morning of Nov. 10th, went out of doors to office and barn, directed "the man" about some duties. Daughter Susan Lukens spent some time with me. Dr. Geo. N. Highley paid a pleasant visit. Dr. E. M. Corson and his brother-in-law Mr. Wilkinson spent half hour or so. So, the time sped on till supper-time at 6 P.M. Since then I was on the lounge until 7 ½ P.M. when a letter of condolence and sympathy came from Rev'd. A. A. Marple and wife, which I have just read.

November 21: Saturday.

9 A.M. Beautiful morning Went to bed last night at 9 ½, after taking some Quinine in hope to prevent a return of palpitation. Could not sleep at all until after midnight, then one hour in which I had a time with a burglar in my sleep, then at 3 A.M. palp., which I cut short by a drink of ice water; after four slept pretty well until 8 this morning. At 9 I came down stairs & had breakfast. Just now finished a letter to Mrs. S. L. Oberholtzer and was attacked again by palpitation but put it off at once by a big drink of ice-water. Carrie and Frannie have just gone to Norristown.

4 P.M. The girls are home again, or rather Frannie is. Carrie staid at home. Frannie brot "The Times" with an article from Lydia W. Hilles in which she compliments me highly. Frannie has it.

7 P.M. Howard Comfort & wife, Susan Wistar, were here to see me this P.M. I had become so weak that I had lain down & was asleep. They could only stay a short time, having to ride to Germantown, their home.

Have rec'd. five copies of Med. & Surg. Reporter from the Editor, containing my "Paper on a New Medical Temperance Society."

November 22: Sunday.

Slept quite well last night. Up at 6 ½ this morning. Have had breakfast, prescribed for a poor fellow who fancies that he smells badly. He is clean, nice in person and to me & even to his wife & children odorless.

I have been arranging the papers which have accumulated the past two weeks while sick.

9 P.M. Have been tolerably well today. Dr. Speer of the Navy and my neighbor, Dr. Oscar Leedom were here a short time this afternoon.

November 23: Monday.

9 P.M. Have been very weak all day. Took a Seidlitz powder just before night; took two teaspoonsful of Sulphate Morph. sol. of $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. to ounce of water = $\frac{1}{12}$ gr. Soon I felt very well, even strong. Wrote a good deal and had several letters.

November 24: Tuesday.

9 P.M. Slept poorly last night because of the letters rec'd. from friends and answered near bed-time, especially one from Mrs. Oberholtzer, who has been with Hannah Whitall Smith whom I used to know., now a great temperance woman and Quaker Preacher who has come with "Lady Somerset" from London to promote Temperance here. I went to bed with them on my mind, and my sleep was a sleep of dreams of them.

I have been weak all day, though down stairs and sometimes out in the air. The Seidlitz taken this morning acted well and at 4 P.M. I took a teaspoonful of Huxhams [Huxham's] Tinctureⁱ & $\frac{1}{12}$ gr. morph. and have since had the best meal that I have had for two weeks, and now am feeling pretty well.

November 26: Thursday.

Thanksgiving Day. Mary's birth-day, 39 years old. Joseph & Follen's birth days last Sunday 22nd of Nov. Edward's (Joseph's son will be on the 29th).

Yesterday was better and today still improving in appetite and strength.

Rode to Susan's today.

November 29: Sunday.

9 A.M. Just as I finished the above line, palp. struck me. It cont'd. despite heavy drinks of cold water. Just now one hour. This moment, little Jimmy brought Frannie Day from Spring Mill station, and at the same time Jay & Susan drove in.

6 P.M. Jay & Susan went home at 12:20 P.M. But soon after they came, Dr. E. M. Corson came to see me, so there was quite an agreeable time till noon. When Ellwood went away, Frannie staid till almost 4 P.M. when I went with her to Spring Mill Station on her way home.

November 30: Monday.

8 P.M. Therm. 15° F. Have been at home all day, having the men to close up the barn, put away the vinegar in the cellar, 10 barrels, and do all that was needed to make horses, cows, hogs and chickens comfortable.

While writing letters since supper, the man brought from the P.O. a letter informing me of the death of Cousin Alfred Blaker, of Newtown, Bucks Co., Pa. I had just been reading a letter from himself & wife in relation to the Will of gt. gt. gt. father Rev'd. Thomas Dungan of Cold Spring, Bucks Co., made in 1686 and which Alfred had found for me at Doylestown. I have hunted for the letter a good deal today, but in vain. That will speaks of his children, of whom I knew nothing save that he had a son Thomas

who was father of my gt. gd. father Joseph. If I can't find the letter, will go to the office in Doylestown and get a copy.

It shocks me that Alfred was so suddenly cut off. The mail brot me the following:

“Newtown Nov. 30, 1891

Yourself and family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral
of Alfred Blaker from his late residence in Newtown on Thursday
December 3rd 1891 at 1 P.M. At Newtown Cemetery Chapel at 2 P.M.
Died Nov 29, 1891 of Paralysis.

The Funeral.

Only relatives were invited to the dwelling. There were only about 20 there beside George Corson & myself. Quiet it was all over the house as Death itself. At 1 ½ their Minister read a portion of scripture; then a Methodist Minister, now “having a church” at Spring City, Chester Co., prayed; this Minister is Lucius Brown, mar[rried] to Alfred's niece, Joshua Blaker's daughter. Then the “remains” were borne away to the Chapel at the Newtown Cemetery grounds, to which place the people had been invited to come at 2 P.M. There was a large concourse of people there. The widow, George and myself did not go.

I rested on the bed a while. We met several of Joshua Blaker's children, agreeable, respectable persons. Alfred was the true type of the family of Benjn. Corson, and Sarah Dungan's eleven children, six sons and five large women, all of whom were living and married when the youngest was fifty years old. Their fine large prominent heads were well represented in his as he lay there in his coffin.

December 1: Tuesday.

9 o'clock P.M. The morning opened beautiful and bright and Thermometer only 22° F. I wrote some letters, then rode to George Corson's to tell them of Cousin Alfred's funeral, &c., &c., till noon. After dinner, rested an hour on the lounge, then at 1 ½ P.M. drove to Norristown to get some securities out of Bank, so as to go tomorrow, if possible, to collect dividends now due. Did several things in Norristown with John. Jay's aid examined nearly all the papers in my box in the Montgomery Trust Co.'s fire proof. Home just before sun setting; the biggest undertaking since my illness.

December 2: Wednesday.

Fine bright morning. Therm. 28°. Felt very well till after breakfast, then while writing a letter, palp. came on. Took a big drink of cold water; [it] did not stop it for about ten minutes. Then rode several miles and back, a medical & business trip. Home by eleven. After dinner at 1 ½ P.M. went to Norristown, took Mary along. Did several things, then went to Eastern Hospital to see Dr. Bennett; not in. Came back, had hair & whiskers trimmed. Home just at sunsetting.

Have rec'd. and written many letters today.

December 3: Thursday.

A beautiful morning, no ice. At 7:45 A.M. as per arrangement yesterday, George Corson called in his carriage, and I with much doubt about the propriety of my going,

went with him to the Sp. Mill train, then to Burke St. and took the 9:40 A.M. train for Newtown. Arrived at 10:50, and in a few minutes was at Cousin Alfred's home, but home no more after today. Now see the subsequent events of the day on opposite page. Reached home from Newtown at 6 P.M.

December 4: Friday.

Up early, feeling very well. Went to the mail at 8 A.M., then to Mrs. Emily Corson's, then to see Hannah Adamson near by, an aged relative who has borne a long unmarried, lonely life, an intellectual excellent woman with but slender means now and but few to have an oversight of her, and no one to have special care of her. We consulted about her affairs a while, then I came home. George Mulvany was buried at 3 P.M. in a fine rain. I intended to go, but had lain down to await the arrival of the funeral from Valley Forge, got asleep till after the time. Very rainy after that time and so I staid in-doors.

December 5: Saturday.

Have been applied today by Hon. G. W. Koiner of House of Delegates of Virginia, for information to aid him in carrying a Bill through the "House," to have women physicians in their hospitals for their female Insane.

Also a letter from Dr. Mary J. Dunlap, physician to the "New Jersey State Institution for the care of Feeble Minded Women, for like information to aid in passing such a "Bill" through the New Jersey Legislature. This letter was rec'd. three days ago.

Also a letter from Miss C. L. Hayne, M.D., woman assistant physician in hospital for Insane females at Staunton, Va., for information for Dr. G. W. Koiner.

December 8: Tuesday.

I have not been very well since last writing on Saturday, but have been doing a great deal of writing and have ridden twice to Norristown and up to the Hospital and other places and am pretty well this evening. Have received numerous letters and answered all of them.

Have been very industrious in furnishing the Editor of Dietetic Gazette with an account of my medical writings in advocacy of the use of cold as a remedy in Measles, Scarlet Fever, &c., &c., so that he may show that some one who claims the origin of the practice may be regarded as only a claimant without basis for his claim.

And I have secured strong testimony from my friends Prof. Traill Green, M.D. and Robt. A. Lamberton, President of Lehigh University, in favor of women physicians for the insane of the sex. I shall send copies to the members of the Legislature of N. Jersey who expect to have a Bill before the House in favor of the reform, and also to Hon. Koiner of "House of Delegates" of Va. Thomas Yocom will type the certificates for me.

I will also get testimonials from the Trustees of Norristown Hospital. They are already promised to me by Hon. Judge Stinson, President of the Board.

December 12: Saturday.

Judge Stinson wrote me an excellent one. Today I have sent to Hon. Koiner at

Richmond, Va., the Delegate who will offer the "Bill", the above testimonials, also my "Plea" for a Reorganization of laws relating to insane-hos[pitals].

Last Sunday at 2 P.M. a knock on the door, and when I opened it, a gentleman stood before me, a fine, large, red-faced man, the redness of health though, who said I am a Corson, Joshua Junior's son. I was quite surprised, not knowing that Uncle Joshua Corson's son Joshua had so fine a looking son. Watson Corson is his name, a Dealer on Delaware Avenue between Race and Vine. I found him a pleasant & intelligent man of 43, a widower after having had two wives. He is in favor of arbitration between Nations, a Peace advocate, against Capitol punishment, in favor of equal rights for women every where, &c., &c. Left for home in Camden after tea.

December 13: Sunday.

9 P.M. Have been greatly engaged for many days in procuring the needed information for the Va. Legislator to support his "bill," and have now loaded him pretty well with my own writings and the testimony of Dr. Green, Dr. Lamberton, & H. C. H. Stinson, all trustees of our two hospitals that have women physicians.

I have written so steadily today that I am really weary now.

Have had Ed. Walton, Josie Read and some of my Cresson gd. children here; also Jay & Susan & Isaac Styer & wife for short visits.

Tomorrow I hope to send testimonials to the success of women physicians in the management of the Insane and some of my writings on the subject, to the Legislator of New Jersey to help him with his "bill."

December 20: Sunday.

Ever since last writing, I have been very well, but hundreds of people are sick with "the Grip" as every body calls it, the La Grippe being the French pronunciation. It has spread all over the State and other States.

My Nephew Dr. Ellwood M. Corson has been in bed several days, ill with it. I was up to see him yesterday & the day before. [He] had been very sick two days before my first visit. Is convalescing now.

I got all my papers off to Richmond, Va. and to Vineland, New Jersey, and have rec'd. thanks in return. Yesterday, the Staunton Vindicator published by Trustees & another came to me, with several communications cut from Va. newspapers which show that all the best Newspapers are in favor of the movement advocated by Mr. Koiner before the "House of Deputies."

Death of Margaret Burleigh. She was buried last Wednesday, and I did not hear any thing of it until yesterday. She was, before her marriage to Cyrus Burleigh, one of the great Abolition Orators, Margaret Jones, sister to Benjn. and who were also great Abolition speakers & workers, and their father was a relative to the Foulkes of Gwynedd, and Edward Foulke's family always called them cousins. She used often to be here. She did much in the abolition work too.

Death of Wm. Yerkes, son of Jones and Letitia Jarrett Yerkes. He too was buried a few hours before I heard of his death; buried about the 12th of Dec., I think. Death notices are so numerous now that I seldom look over the long columns. The death of Wm. is a sad blow to one of the kindest of mothers.

December 22: Tuesday.

I have been to see my nephew Dr. E. M. Corson every day for the last five days. Dr. Read attends him. He is better now, able to be up occasionally. I went up at 10 A.M., was home by 12:30.

After dinner, at 10 min. of 2 o'clock, I started in the carriage for Germantown to see Jesse Foulke, my brother-in-law, who has been confined to bed for a few weeks, with vesical disease and enlarged prostate gland.

Found him suffering somewhat, but more suffering from the introduction of the catheter twice daily than from any other cause. No [illeg.] of death coming, as some supposed "almost any time." He will live for months, possibly years. Staid 40 minutes; was home at 5:30 P.M. I have ridden 8 miles this forenoon, 18 miles this afternoon = 26 miles.

Yesterday while in Norristown at John J. Corson's office, I was struck with palp. I could not get any cold, quite cold water for several minutes, 10 or more, and when I did it would not stop it. I came home and tried the ice water several times without success. It cont'd. with me till almost eleven o'clock at night = 11 hours. I have had it every day, sometimes twice or even three times, but having ice water, or very cold water at hand, it would stop it instantly. Today I have not had it.

December 24: Thursday.

Rested well last night. Was up at 6 ½. After breakfast at 7, began to look over my accounts and mortgages, &c. While engaged at this, palp. struck me and now at 9 o'clock A.M., I have had it an hour. A few minutes ago I took a heavy draught of ice water. Instantly it went off. I then went to the table to take a teaspoonful of Huxham's Tinct. in hope to keep it from starting again, as it did twice the other day. Before I could get it, the palp. came again and it is still battering away.

Noon. At 10 o'clock I took another tumblerful of ice-water without avail. I then read the Press until 15 of eleven when it stopped. Then took two teaspoonsful of Huxham's Tct. to prevent its coming again.

December 25: Friday.

Christmas. Went early to see Jacob Fisher below Barren Hill as a matter of Charity. Before I got there, was taken with palp. Went on, saw he was dying. Advised the wife, poor, poor as poverty is self. Death will be a release from much physical and mental suffering. This is my 3rd. [visit] to him. He has been sick for months; [had] several doctors, "off and on." They all quit after a few visits. I attended them years ago, and now they come to me, though knowing that I do not practice, and want me "to see to him." He would not want it long was plain to me, and I gave him what comfort I could.

Came home with palp. on me. Mary and I were to be at Jawood Lukens' to "Christmas Dinner" and here at 10 o'clock I was down with this heart trouble. The ice water failed, but at 11:30 palp. left me.

Christmas Dinner. Being through with the palp., we got ready and went to Jay to dine. Charles Heber Clarke[sic] and family were there. Old Mr. Lukens, Jawood's father and his mother were not well and did not get there. We had an enjoyable time and were home by 4 P.M.

December 26: Saturday.

Very rainy and warm. Temp. at noon 59° F. Foggy to a great degree. Went in the afternoon to see Dr. E. M. Corson. [He] is better, but not out of the House.

The Grip prevails greatly. Dr. Newberry has had it pretty badly. I visited him on Thursday.

Newspapers are coming to me from Va. with editorials favorable to women physicians for insane females, and in advocacy of the "Koiner Bill" in "House of Deputies."

December 30: Wednesday.

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday were all warm and more than half the time rainy. This morning at 8 ½, I started to go to Germantown to see Jesse Foulke with Dr. Shellenberger. Was there at 9:55 & he came at 10:05. Jesse I found quite poorly. He suffers a good deal when the Catheter is used twice daily. Beyond that trouble and pain I see no organic disease. The need to use the Catheter comes from an enlarged prostate gland.

After our Consultation, "Aunt Hannah Bacon," as the children call Uncle Jesse's sister with whom he lives, went with me to Richard H. Day's to see daughter Frannie and her beautiful little boy, Richard C. Day Jr. We dined there and at 10' of 3 P.M. I left for home; came by the Park road, a most pleasant ride, reaching home at 4:20 P.M.

I had palp. every day since last writing, stopped every time at once if I could get ice-water quickly. Twice when from home, in the carriage and not able to get it quickly, [it] went on for hours, as the ice water would not stop it after delay in getting it. Had it twice last night, [the] first time got the water quickly & stopped it. 2nd. time it cont'd. half an hour after getting the water. It is now 8 P.M. and I have not had it today.

1892

January 1: Friday.

New Years Day. Therm. at Sunrise 30 F°. Has been above freezing all day. Clear in the morning and cloudy but no rain [in] P.M.

Tildy (the help) in Town. Mary and self alone.

The Grip is very prevalent. Many people die, especially old people.

Death of Hannah Adamson, daughter of Jonathan and Priscilla (Conrad) Adamson, aged seventy eight years.

Visited Henry Schlater and wife, both very old, both very ill; had attended a few days; neither quite as old as I am.

January 2: Saturday.

A fearfully rainy, windy, foggy, or rather misty morning. I was much nauseated an hour or more before I rose, and when I did get up, had pain and diarrhoea.

At 3 o'clock P.M. I rec'd. a telegram that her father [Dr. W. Stump Forwood] died at his home in Darlington, Maryland, this morning and the funeral will take place on Sunday, tomorrow. It is burying him pretty quickly.

I have corresponded with him very many times during the last 10 years, and once visited him & his family at their home. Twice he visited here. His two daughters

Elizabeth and Catharine were also here. He was only about [empty space] years of age, and in early life, the early years of his practice, he indulged pretty freely in the use of intoxicants, whisky, &c., to a degree indeed that he felt a need to quit it, so began to take morph. as a substitute. Soon increased it until he used three grs daily and that for the last 10 or more years.

He has been very wretched the last few years and tried to break away from it, but suffered so greatly in the attempts that he had to resume it. His appeals to me for suggestions in treatment have been almost if not quite weekly. Only last evening Jan. 1st I rec'd. a letter from his daughter Elizabeth, with one of his, unfinished & without a name, in which he laments his condition and says there is no hope for him ever to get better. What sad habits they were for a very talented man and conscientious physician. I am thankful that although sorely afflicted by palpitation, which was rendered more easily borne by 1/8 or 1/4 morph, that I never got into the habitual use of it. Now if I use it at all, the dose is only 1/24 of a grain. But I do not use it to relieve it, iced water rapidly drank stops it in about nine times out of ten.

The Thermometer at 11 1/2 56° F., at 2 P.M. 62° F on the second day of January, 1892.

January 3: Sunday.

A beautiful day, but just about at freezing point all day. I visited Henry Schlater quite early in the day. Found him in a dying condition, but quite sensible and though breathing 40 times per minute, not laboring badly for breath. Jay and Susan here when I reached home at 11 A.M.

The afternoon we spent without having visitors, which was a thing that suited my mood that day. I wrote several letters to friends. Letter writing is an exceedingly agreeable occupation to me. Then, too, I had the Friends Intelligencer which had an article of mine, an account of the formation of the New Temperance Society formed at Washington by Medical men, in it. Had also Thomas Speakman's paper on "Decline of Friends." So I had plenty to read until bed-time.

January 4: Monday.

Death of Henry Schlater. I was up at the house 9 A.M. He had died about one hour before. His wife age 85, he only 83, was lying in the adjoining room, very ill. Old age and some bronchial trouble causing a good deal of cough were her chief troubles.

Henry Schlater was a good man. I have attended his family about, or nearly 60 years, and in all this time we have never had a single "unpleasantness," and no physician but myself, save that on one occasion since I ceased general practice. I could not go and Dr. Knipe was in attendance during a few days. And in all these 60 years not a member of the family died.

From Henry's I went to Norristown to deposit some money (\$97) and get Henry's Will from my box. In the afternoon heard that Jawood Lukens was suffering from Grip. I took Mary & we went to see him. [It is] pretty cold.

January 6: Wednesday.

Palp. came on yesterday at 5 P.M. while in Norristown, and I had to walk a couple of squares before I could get the ice-water and when I did, it did not arrest it. So I rode

home, tried the water three times after that before 9 P.M., but without avail. At 11 while in bed, it stopped.

I rose this morning feeling pretty well. Ground lightly covered with snow and the snow still falling. Have been busy the whole day writing, reading correspondents, &c., &c. What a comfortable thing it is to be busy with pleasant work.

Henry Schlater and the painting by Mr. Hovenden of John Brown being led to execution at Harpers Ferry by the Virginians by order of Gov. Henry A. Wise.

When Mr. Hovenden the Artist was desirous to paint the above picture, indeed when it was already contracted for by Mr. [Robbins Battell], he had about to find a model. I had seen a photograph of John Brown and it so strongly reminded me of my friend Henry Schlater, that I spoke to Mr. Hovenden about him. He went to see Mr. Schlater and was impressed with his resemblance, in height, face and beard, that he engaged him.

January 7: Thursday.

Attacked by La Grippe. About midnight, awakened feeling very chilly, got up, put on my silk wrapper, an old thick one. Before day light had fever, pains in back, groins, shoulders, sides, changing about. Got up at 7 A.M. [with] utter loss of appetite, with head-ache. Went to bed.

January 11: Monday.

I suffered greatly on Wednesday and Thursday and had wretched nights, that and the next, though Dr. Ellwood M. Corson, my nephew prescribed for me. I was truly very miserable, but on Friday got some relief and on Saturday was still better. People are dying with the Grip in many places, an old neighbor, Mrs. Hannah Yerkes, now Mrs. Anthony Harner died yesterday. I am now able to go out to the barn and around the yard.

Son Dr. Joseph K. Corson [is] here. Yesterday, Sunday, Joseph, Bertha and Frannie spent the day here. Susan Lukens, had brought her brother Joseph, my son, up on Saturday. So I had a good deal of pleasant company and was able to be down stairs with them most of the day.

This morning Joseph went to the City to see his friends and relatives. He expects first to visit his Uncle Jesse Foulke at Germantown where he lives with his sister Hannah Bacon, then to return to the City to see the folks there.

It is now 5 P.M. and the man has gone to Conshohocken for him. I write miserably.

January 14: Thursday.

Since Joseph has come, I have been out with him to Consho. and yesterday quite late in the afternoon went to Norristown to prove H. Schlater's Will and do other things, Joseph along. We were too late for doing much and at John J. Corson's office I got palp. and despite the ice-water, it lasted me about half an hour.

Susan had come to spend the day with us and did not go home till 3 P.M., which was the cause of our being so late.

Hannah Yerkes (née Shoemaker and now Harner) was buried yesterday. La Grippe is doing much work among us. Every where he is cutting off the feeble and oft-times the old, when helped by the depressing medicines so lauded now.

Early this morning Joseph and self went to Spring Mill and took the cars for Phila. Went to Wannamaker's and changed pants for a pair fitting me better; then to the Board of Public Charities, to see my Kinsman M. H. Dickinson, its President; saw Mr. Cadwalader Biddle and had a talk of half an hour. Then went to Farmer's & Mechanics Bank and got \$84 Div. for \$2800 City Six's. Then to "Bullitt Building" and got div. \$15 (on coupon); then to Kensington Bank and got \$22 ½ div. on \$450 (9 shares of \$50 cash); then back to Broad & Market depot and took the cars for home where we arrived at 4 P.M. But when in the Bullitt Building, we had an excellent dinner at the restaurant on the top floor.

After supper. Our mail at 7 P.M. brot me four letters; one from F. B. Sanborn from Concord, Mass, gave me the statistics in relation to women physicians in the hospitals for Insane in Mass. for which I had asked that I might send them to Hon. Koiner of the "House of Deputies" of Va.; another from the latter which I write here:

Richmond, Va. Jan. 12, 92

My Dear Doctor.

My Woman's Doctor "bill" passed the House of Delegates today. But I will have a very hard fight for it in the Senate. Will return the papers to you as soon as I get the matter settled. Have been sick with Grippe. I hope You are in good health. Very truly yours.

G. W. Koiner

January 15: Friday.

This morning on rising I found quite a snow storm in progress. Joseph left for Home via Phila. immediately after breakfast, the snow storm being still in full force.

January 16: Saturday.

8 A.M. Snow covers the ground about 4 inches deep. Therm. 12° F. Sky "clear as a bell." How bright the sun-light in the parlors large entry and the bay-window! The beautiful "frost-tracery" on those windows, where not already dissipated by the sun, is splendid beyond description by me.

January 20: Wednesday.

Sunday, Monday & Tuesday were uneventful only that on Tuesday there came more snow and now there is pretty good sleighing. Therm. down to 2° above Zero one night. Have written and rec'd. a good many letters. Attended funeral of Jake Dutterer at Friends Meeting this P.M. He worked a good many days for me. I knew his father & mother and their fathers & mothers 80 years ago. All lived in Hickorytown. Knew all of them till they died. Jake was Nathan's son, and born within a few hundred yards of this house. Was about 50 years old.

January 21: Thursday.

When the mail came at 9 A.M., I rec'd. a marked paper, Virginia paper, from

Dr. S. W. Dickinson of Marion, announcing the almost unanimous passage of Mr. Koiner's "Bill" to have a woman physician in every hospital for insane females in the whole State. A great triumph which I helped to gain by sending facts & arguments.

January 24: Sunday.

I was much awake last night, but easy and comfortable. Though I could not sleep long at a time, still towards morning got some pretty good sleep. I had had several letters before going to bed, also three in the morning & had to answer, or at least did, at much length. Beside that, I rode to Norristown & the hospital for the Insane in the afternoon. Called on a friend whom I had not seen for nearly forty years, & met other friends.

Today Susan came up for a brief time before dinner, and Carrie Cresson went home this morning. Have been at home all day. Mary seems improved today. I have had the Knee and lower part of the thigh dressed by two 4 inch in breadth sticking plasters, long enough to go nearly around the limb.

8 o'clock & 50 minutes P.M. I have just finished the last of three long letters; one to Elisa Corson, Trenton, N.J., for Mary; another for my niece Ida Corson, "Uncle George's" daughter; a third for Joseph, both of these two live at Washington, D.C.

January 25: Monday.

I went in the afternoon to Germantown to see Jesse Foulke. He was suffering much. Vesical affection, requires catheterizing. As I went down, stopped at Warren Poley's to see himself & wife, my gd. Niece. Had a pleasant half hour. Coming back collected interest in Chestnut Hill, then called on my old friend, I mean my friend of long-age, Mary Naroni, now Mrs. Dr. Moss, & spent another agreeable half hour. Home at 5 P.M. It was a delightful afternoon, and the ride [was] pleasant.

January 31: Sunday.

During the past six days nothing out of the common routine has occurred with us. Every day with only one exception, I have had one, sometimes two or even three spells of palpitation. Last night at 10 ½ I had an attack which was put away after two heavy draughts of ice water. After it left me, I was wakeful, did not get asleep till 4 A.M. today; was up often through the night. At 6 ½ A.M. had an attack which despite numerous large drinks of ice-water at intervals of half or whole hours, continued till 2 ½ P.M. today = eight hours. Pretty miserable I was until after dinner when I began to write my autobiography. Then I soon became absorbed in it so that I "took no note of time" and scarcely noted the signal of its withdrawal. At 2 ½ the slight but characteristic feeling or sensation of warmth passed over my body and I knew the heart had resumed its wonted, steady pulsation. I cont'd. my writing until I had completed ten pages of closely written fools-cap. Then took a ride of three miles and after supper, just before I began this writing was struck again, but a large drink of iced water stopped it at once.

What is to be the out-come of this abnormal action of the heart? I fear that after a few months more it will be a continuous palpitation. Well, come what may, I must bear it without murmuring much for I have had a long life of health.

Had many letters from Joseph and the girls and stranger the past week and wrote many. The Montgomery County Medical Society had an annual Banquet. The Sec.

wrote to me that “the members regret your absence, regard you their most useful and honored member and wish for you yet more years of usefulness and fellowship with them. The Secretary’s letter, as follows:

Norristown, Pa. Jan. 28th, 1892

The Montgomery Co. Medical Society assembled in their annual Banquet send to you, their honored and most highly esteemed member greetings and regret your absence from among them. They wish for you long and happy years of usefulness and fellowship and know that you are with them in spirit, if not in person.

Trusting in your continued good health,
I remain yours obediently,
H. H. Whitcomb,
Secretary.

To the above I returned the following:

Maple Hill Jan. 30, 1892

H. H. Whitcomb, M.D.

Dear Doctor

It was a comfort to me to receive from you last evening an assurance that the members of our Montg’y Co. Med. Society regard me kindly and respectfully and “wish me yet more years of usefulness and fellowship.”

Your letter carries me back to the year 1847, just 45 years ago, when I was moved to consult Dr. George W. Thomas and my brother Dr. Wm. Corson, and with their approval to issue a “call” to physicians of our County to a meeting, with a view to the formation of a Medical Society, that we might bring together, the then estranged members of our profession and make the individual experience of each the common property of all, in order that we might become better qualified for our responsible duties. The members of the Medical Society of our County may well be proud of its present standing in the State Society, for our members have been almost unanimous in their advocacy of all needed reforms, and now in point of numbers and in usefulness has no superior in the State outside of the great cities.

Be pleased to convey to the Society my thanks for, and my heart-felt appreciation of the honor done me.

With kind regards for you all, sincerely your friend

Hiram Corson

Women as School Directors. Judge Ashman spoke in Norristown a week or more ago on, I forgot the title of his address, but it was largely on the “Rights of Women.” The Norristown people were moved by it to have much talk about the need to have some women on the School Board. In order to spur them on, I published a paper in the Norristown Herald, showing what has been done in that direction in other States. In

order to have the needed information myself, I wrote to the Woman's Journal in Boston and rec'd. the following statement, viz.

"The States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Washington, Idaho, Oregon, & Wyoming not only allow women to be School Directors and Superintendents, but also to be voters in school elections. In Iowa and Louisiana women may be school directors and super[indendents] but not voters. These are 23 States and Territories in which women are voters for School Directors and 26 in which women can serve as Directors and Superintendents."

Such is the report sent. Who does not feel a blush of shame on his cheeks that the great State of Pennsylvania is not among those who advocate justice to women on this subjects? H.C.

February 7: Sunday.

Yesterday my niece Dr. Sarah R. A. Dolley and her son Prof. Charles Sumner Dolley came at 3 P.M. to Conshohocken from where I brought them home with me. In the evening Thomas Yocom came to supper. All staid at night. We talked till almost eleven o'clock. I did not sleep well, and this morning before breakfast I got palp. which the cold water did not at first expel, but after an hour and half on another trial it did it at once.

They left at 9 ½ A.M.

February 8: Monday.

A beautiful morning, F. at 30. I thought it a favorable time for Mary & self to go to Germantown to see "Uncle Jesse." So we were off soon after 9 A.M., after we had rec'd. our mail. We were there at 10:40, found Uncle Jesse very poorly, thinner than three weeks ago; don't talk so well; is resting and sleeping better on the morph. prescribed by me. Will not live over Spring, and yet I may be mistaken.

At noon we went 1 ½ miles toward the City to Richard H. Day's to dine. Daughter Frannie not at home, but her daughter Bertha had a good every day dinner for us. At 3 P.M. we left for home via the Wissahickon Park road. Home at 4:20. Went at once to see my fence makers at Consho. Then home to Plymouth Kilns on business.

F. B. Sanborn's 2nd letter about women physicians in Massachusetts.

Concord, February 6, 1892

Dear Dr. Corson:

You must excuse my delay in answering your last letter and in returning your pamphlets, for I have had to be quite busy with another matter. I shall still retain the pamphlets a few days, in order to use some of the information therein.

I cannot say exactly how many of our 350 cities and towns now have women on their school boards, and I should suppose at least 50 and perhaps 100.

It is so old a story now, and has worked so well, that few towns inquire, if any, whether the candidate is a man or woman, if otherwise capable. As to the voting of women, that is quite another

matter; they only vote in school elections; and as that is so small a matter, compared with the whole and they do not vote on the appropriations and require a special tax to be paid by them, comparatively few have registered, except here and there in Boston. I do not think that voting and holding office stand on the same footing, and there are a great many who object to women voting, and yet favor their election or appointment to office.

In New Hampshire, as well as here, women vote at school elections and may be school officers.

I hardly think the Virginia "Bill" will go through the first year. It is too great a change from old habits. The opposition you encountered in Pa. is a sample of all such things. Your own profession are always, at first, strongly against it, and they are apt to be rather underhand politicians, as I had experience with them. The Norristown Report is very interesting, and I mean to make some notice of it.

Yours truly
F. B. Sanborn

It is amazing, or would be if the people were better informed and had had their attention called to the disabilities under which women are placed, by the law, that good, kind people, husbands and sons, and brothers, should be opposed to having their wives, sisters and daughters treated fairly, given all the rights under the laws, that they themselves possess. Custom has done it for many, reverence for law, right or wrong, and the indisposition to reform with others.

Several letters come and go.

February 10: Wednesday.

Have an inability to get to sleep prior to midnight, last night as usual, awake till 12 midnight. Slept none after 5 A.M. Have done a good deal of useful work. Saw Ellwood M. Corson, M.D. [He] told me his sister Helen Hovenden is very sick at their new home in Evanbrook, England, but the news yesterday reports her now convalescing rapidly. It would be a grief to all of our family should she be "taken." She is a fine woman, brother George's daughter.

February 11: Thursday.

But little sleep last night, indeed almost none. I had written for the Herald some pages of "foolscap," on the Reform in Virginia to have a female physician for their insane women, and could not get asleep till 12 ½ midnight, then slept ½ hour and awoke with palp. which defied three heavy drinks of ice-water. So I then bore it for six hours; uncomfortable it was too. I have really had but little sleep this whole week.

February 12: Friday.

10 P.M. I have been on the lounge nearly all the day. But after supper began to write and kept at it till 9 P.M. Then as I had taken 30 drops of Tct. Digitalis a few hours before, I took 20 grains of Bromide Potassium and went to bed with all my clothes on,

even my slippers, and rested well the whole night, of course awake every 2 or 3 hours, as is usual with old people, to urinate.

Had 12 letters today, answered several.

February 13: Saturday.

9 P.M. Took 20 grs. Bromide at bed-time last night and thirty drops Tct.

Digitalis. No palp. till this evening at 7 o'clock while writing. Ice water stopped it at once.

Was in the house all day, reading and writing. Very pleasant it was too, [on] a cold, windy day. Have written some on my autobiography, and a paper for the Herald & Free Press.

Had three letters today.

February 14: Sunday.

Up every hour nearly last night, but slept pretty well in the intervals. Rose at 6 ½ A.M. Have been very busy answering letters, &c. Have also, having need to look for a scripture text, read some of the Apocrypha [Apocrypha] - queer stories! If true, Susannah was a good woman and Daniel a shrewd man, and the Priests the fathers of ours today, who still worship dumb Idols and take tithes, not of meals but of the ready cash of the poor.

9 P.M. Rec'd. an invitation to the dinner of the Alumni of the University of Pa. a few days ago, with a request to send back the card, if I should not agree to come, to send \$10 if I should. To this I made reply today. I forgot to say that \$10 included wine. To this I replied today:

Plymouth Meeting
Feb. 14th, 1892

John Douglass Brown Jr.

Dear Sir

The invitation to a dinner on Feb. 27th at Musical Fund Hall was rec'd. in due time. It would afford me real pleasure, were I younger and my ears not so dull, to mingle with the Alumni on the occasion referred to; a few of those whom I knew in times past, but Oh! how few, and some of more recent date. It would pay me well to come to the dinner if it were only to meet the chairman, whose friend I am, and who, I whisper it to you, is about my own age, far up in the eighties, a most agreeable man who "does not tarry long at the wine." Please make my kindest regards to him. That much rational enjoyment may come to you all, on the occasion, in the earnest desire of one of the Class of 1828, who still loves the old honored University of Pennsylvania.

Respectfully
Hiram Corson

I see in the "Press", death of Sarah J. Corson, wife of Charles P. Corson, in her 44th year, at her residence at Elsinboro Station, Camden Co., N. Jersey. There are many

Corsons in N. Jersey, all from Staten Island stock that we are from, yet we do not know each other.

Jesse Foulke's death. At 5 P.M. Jesse breathed his last, and so quietly that they could scarcely tell when the last one expired. Francis Bacon wrote me next morning in relation to it.

I have been feeling so weak for a day or two that I have concluded that the weakness came from taking 20 grains of Bromide Potassium at night to enable me to sleep more soundly. I have not only felt weak so as to have to be on my guard when standing or walking for fear I shall totter over. But I still ride to Norristown, Conshohocken and other places as usual.

February 16: Tuesday.

Very weak, and [have] a dull uncomfortable feeling in my head. Will take no more Bromide. Went to Norristown. [Feel] miserable.

February 17: Wednesday.

Very weak, poor appetite. Staid at home till 3 P.M., then rode to Conshohocken to see Susan, who yesterday came from Washington where she had been a week, staying with Joseph & family. I feel very miserable, but only from weakness. Took no Bromide last night. Slept well without it. Have never taken a dose of ten grs. doses in my life. Never but three 20 gr doses this past three days, and don't think I will ever take any more.

February 18: Thursday.

A beautiful day but I feel so miserable, so weak, that I will not go to Jesse's funeral. But I have sent to Tacie if she will go. She concluded to go. Two old friends wish me to come to see sick ones and advise them.

I felt too weak and uncomfortable to go, as I knew there would be no place to lie down, no ice water to be had while there or on the road, should I get the palpitation.

The people met at the house of Francis Bacon at noon; at two o'clock the relatives were at Laurel Hill with the body. He was buried in the Foulke lot, enclosed with our two lots.

He was a good man, as the term is applied, offended no one willingly, was kind, just, honest and altogether an agreeable man, about 78 years old.

Since quitting the use of Bro. Pot., getting to feel better and to sleep just as well as I did while using it.

Nine P.M. Have had many letters today.

February 20: Saturday.

9 P.M. Carrie Cresson gone home. Frannie Yocum has come. Tacie sent for me today. She has had a letter that her son James has Diphtheria, out in the middle of the State where he has a hundred men working on a place where the Pa. rail road Co. are trying to secure for a rail-road. I was not well fitted to go, so rainy was it, but went.

February 22: Monday.

10 P.M. Washington's birth-day. No account of this day now as when I was a boy, with military companies parading and "Shines" at tavern. But Library Societies of many kinds have meetings, quiet, unobtrusive ones. This afternoon our County Historical Society met and Mrs. Wm. H. Holstein read a most valuable account of women's work in this County for the comfort & I may say lives of the soldiers in the War of the Revolution

Editor's note: At this point in the diary book are pasted several extensive news paper columns from several different papers and on different subjects, including "EQUAL RIGHTS IN MASSACHUSETTS," with a portrait of Lucy Stone; an article on Lady Henry Somerset, President of the British Woman's Temperance Association; a poem, "So Goes the World," by Ella Wheeler Wilcox; one about the Norristown Luther Union; one devoted to Browning's Poetry and Prof. Hiram Corson, and others.

April 15: Friday.

But little occurred worthy of note, or that need be mentioned. I wrote an article for the Herald on the need of having women on "School Boards," and to my surprise found that 22 states allow them to be so, which was well rec'd.

Have been very busy all the two months, reading, writing and attending to other matters, farming and monetary. During all this time my sister-in-law, Mrs. Emily Bacon has been very ill, and my brother-in-law Jesse Foulke died.

Death of Jesse Foulke. He was ill several weeks with "Bladder Trouble," as they called it, and died Feb. 15/92 at 4:45 P.M. I was not able to go to the funeral, being sick with a dysentery at the time. Buried at Laurel Hill.

6 P.M. I have been sick. On Sunday Ap. 3rd I began to write a paper to be read before the Phila. County Medical Society in the College of Physicians. I wrote an hour or more after breakfast, and after I had read some of the articles in "Friends Intelligencer" as is my wont on "First Day" mornings. At 10 o'clock son-in-law Jawood Lukens and his wife, my daughter Susan F. came, as is their habit, and as we did not "be moved to go to Meeting," we talked till noon when they left for home. After dinner I lay on the lounge for an hour, then got up and wrote for a short time when my gd. nephew Professor Dr. Charles Sumner Dolley, of the University of Pa. and wife came. Then we had a steady stream of talk until they left before five P.M. In the meantime, two nephews, the "Bacon boys" had come, and before supper grandson Thomas Yocom appeared.

Dr. Dolley had come to see if I could aid him in his efforts for defense against the movements of the Provost at the University to get him & five or more other professors to resign, under the pretence that the University would for economic reasons have abolished several professorships. So after supper, believing that Dr. Alice Bennett of the Hospital for Insane at Norristown could perhaps influence certain trustees, I went to the hospital and had a talk with her, and also a talk with my nephew on the subject, reaching home at 9 P.M., and this day the hottest one that perhaps was ever known at the same time of year, the Thermometer being above 70°. It was too a very sudden fall of temperature, as only the previous day it had been quite cool.

On reaching home I was tired and went directly to bed. The weather had been cold and disagreeable up to this day, so that I had had the heat coming through the

register from the stove in the room below, and I went to bed without shutting it, not thinking of doing so. All night the temp. outside was very high and that aided by the heat from the stove below made my room very warm. All night I sweat profusely. All these things were too much for me and though I rode out to the field on Monday and walked about a little, I was weak & had no appetite.

Jesse Foulke died at the home of his sister Hannah Bacon on Mill St., Germantown, to whom on his death his estate of about \$10,000 was left. He was only two years younger than my dear wife, his sister.

Dr. D. Hayes Agnew, the great Philadelphia surgeon died. I went to see Dr. Charles H Thomas the day of the funeral, by invitation to meet the Committee of the Phila. Co. Med. Soc. and go with them to the church at the S. E. Corner, 20th and Walnut Sts. It was an impressive service. I was close to the coffin, among the Committee, but could not hear much said by the preachers, because of my deafness. Though I can talk well to a single person and he not discover it. We afterward came back and I had lunch at Dr. Thomas' house.

A few days before going to Dr. Thomas, I had seen in the Feb. No. of the "International Medical Magazine," report of a case by Dr. Wm. Pepper, the eminent medical man, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, in which he describes the suffering condition of his [patient] and whom after efforts to relieve him, he had bled to the amount of 20 oz with astonishing relief. This was an agreeable surprise to me as he had been always, as teacher of hundreds of students as Professor of Practice, been opposing blood-letting. I wrote to Dr. Thomas of this article and said I will probably write a paper for our coming State Society meeting and quote what Dr. Pepper has said. Dr. Thomas suggested that I write it for their Society and read it there.

So when we returned, he told me that Dr. J. B. Roberts & Dr. James Wilson joined him in an invitation to read a paper on pneumonia before the County Society and April 13 was agreed upon as the time.

As already stated on page 1, I wrote a few pages on April 3rd, and then no more till I was taken sick on April 4th from the heat and overwork on Sunday Ap. 3rd, and on next day was fearfully sick and weak, much vomiting and great weakness. For several days could not sit up or eat anything scarcely. Dr. Ellwood attended me faithfully, so that in a week I would sit up for a brief time and write on my paper and so went on a little now & then, but did not get it completed until the day on which Dr. Highley was to read it. He greatly helped me, too, to correct it for I was so weak and forgetful that I needed aid. Besides the paper, we wrote out cases and items which he might use in his closing speech, to meet criticisms of those appointed to discuss the paper, viz., Dr. Wm. Pepper, Dr. James C. Wilson and Dr. J. M. Anders. I chose Dr. Highley because he has a fine, clear voice and is thoroughly in accord with my views and knows of some of my cases and has successfully practiced vs. in cases of his own.

The Meeting. After a memoir on Dr. Agnew had been read, Dr. Highley proceeded, after a few remarks in relation to my inability to attend, read the paper to a "crowded house" in the lower room of the College of Physicians.

The discussion was then begun by a note from Prof. Pepper, regretting his unavoidable absence, but saying that he agreed so far with the views of Dr. Corson that he could say vs. was needed sometimes in "certain cases of pneumonia." He was followed by Drs. Wilson and Anders and then by Dr. Horatio C. Wood and five others.

Dr. Highley then closed it, by what was considered by the Society, “in a way to gratify every one,” as Dr. Thomas wrote to me, and bravely supported my views as Dr. Oscar H. Allis wrote next day.

Dr. Highley called next day (the 14th) and informed me, as Dr. Allis had said in his letter, that the paper was received with great applause. It was a grand introduction of Dr. Highley to the Philadelphia doctors.

Letter from Dr. Charles H. Thomas in relation to my paper:

1807 Chestnut St., Phila., Ap.15.

My Dear Dr. Corson

Dr. Highley has doubtless told of the cordial interest in your paper, and in yourself as well, shown at the meeting of the County Society.

As the President remarked from the chair, “no other meeting had been as largely attended and no discussion so earnestly pursued for a long time.” We are delighted to have heard from you in this way, and all were sorry that you could not be present.

Dr. Highley filled the place assigned both in reading and discussion, in a way to gratify every one.

Wont you take luncheon with me some day very soon?

Charles Homer Thomas

4.15.92

Dr. Oscar Allis' letter:

Phila. 1604 Spruce St.
Ap. 14, 92

Dear Dr. Corson-

I was early at the County Medical Society last evening, hoping to have the pleasure of a chat with you, before the time of meeting, but instead found your nephew Dr. Highley. The paper elicited much discussion. Besides those appointed, Dr. Wood, Darland, Woodberry, Cohen, La-Place & Jon's B. Roberts took part and spoke to a crowded house. Dr. Highley read it well and spoke manfully and earnestly in its support.

I took no other part than to ask that a type written copy be made for the publisher and that the original be bound with the portrait of the author and preserved by the Society.

Will you not kindly send me a few lines written on similar paper, with the statement that much of it was written when you were confined to bed. If you do not feel able to do this, Dr. Highley could make out such a statement as a brief preface to the article giving the age of the writer.

We are all well and regret that Uncle Hiram is indisposed.

Very Sincerely

Oscar H. Allis.

Letter from Secretary Philad. Co. Med. Society:

Philadelphia County Medical Society
N. E. Cor. 13th & Locust Sts.
April 15th 1892

Dr. Hiram Corson

Dear Doctor

At a meeting of the
Philadelphia County Medical Society held Ap. 13th the following
Resolution was unanimously adopted.

“Resolved that the thanks of the Society be tendered to
Dr. Hiram Corson for his interesting and valuable paper on
“Pneumonia,” and its unsuccessful treatment by arterial sedatives
and its successful treatment by Blood-letting,” and that the
Secretary be instructed to convey to Dr. Corson an expression of
the sympathy of the Society in his illness and an assurance of its
cordial regard for him always.

Resolved, That the original paper be bound and filed in the
Archives of the Society together with a photograph of Dr. Corson,
if this be obtainable.”

Yours very truly
T. B. Schneideman
Secretary

1807 Chestnut St.

My Reply:

Plymouth Meeting
April 16th, 1892

Dr. T. B. Schneideman
Sec. Phila. Co. Med. Soc.
Dear Doctor

Many thanks
to you for your prompt “Report” of the reception of my paper to the
Society on “Pneumonia,” read before it on the 13th inst. by Dr. George
Norman Highley, and discussed by the members.

It will give me pleasure to forward my photograph, as requested.
Please extend to the Society my appreciation of their sympathy in my
present sickness and their satisfaction with my paper expressed in their
resolutions so unanimously adopted.

Gratefully
Hiram Corson

April 18: Monday.

Since April 4th when I was taken sick after the hot Sunday, I have not had a spell
of palp. until yesterday. Then a very little that went off without the ice-water, half hour
ago. 8 o'clock I had it again; took ice-water, that stopped it instantly.

April 19: Tuesday.

This P.M. at 4 o'clock Ada, Joseph's wife and their son Edward, 9 years old, came up from Jawood Lukens with Susan his wife. Directly afterwards, Cousin Ann Paxson, daughter of my first Cousin John Evans, now deceased, and her husband came. It was quite an unexpected meeting of relatives, some of whom had not see each other for many years. I was at Consho. and Norristown on business today. Joseph's wife and little boy are very agreeable.

April 20: Wednesday.

Ada and self went to Norristown to see Tacie & family and Nina Read in the afternoon, after I had been busy all the forenoon directing the man and boy. Home at 5 P.M. Now worn out, palp. has returned.

April 21: Thursday.

Slept none after midnight, so laid in bed, rather on the lounge all day and slept a good deal of the time. [Had] palp. again.

April 22: Friday.

Slept well last night. Am pretty good this morning save that the weather is dull and the world does not seem to me bright and interesting as it used to be.

April 23: Saturday.

I was not well yesterday and as the day was wet, did not go out but a few miles to do some business at Conshohocken. Slept pretty well last night.

April 24: Sunday.

8 A.M. Little Edward, who came from Susan Lukens' with his mother yesterday afternoon, became very sick before sunset, vomited several times and after going to bed vomited a good deal. At 9 P.M. I gave him vinegar and water to drink, then he slept till midnight. At 3 A.M. he vomited again. Then I gave Paregoric, then there was no more of it. This morning he seems pretty well, but is in bed. He is a smart little fellow, [nine years] old, and the idol of his parents. How anxious his mother was last night. Since the death of Mary, they are agonized when Edward is sick. My daughters Tacie, Bertha and Frannie are married and have children. Susan is married and has none. The three are anxious and have fears for the safety, health and well doing of their children, which gives them many an unhappy hour. Susan is free from all those fears, has a pleasant time of it, and yet there is a void in her life no doubt that nothing but mother's love for children can fill. So it is, if we have not one source of trouble, we have another. Often when I have seemed to have no real one, I have fancied one, feared one, until a real one, even though a slight one, came when the other which possessed me disappeared greatly to my comfort.

This is about as lovely a morning as I have ever seen. The grass in our large yards is beautiful, and as there is not a stick or stone on it, it is delightful to look on.

April 25: Monday.

I telegraphed Joseph at 10 A.M. that Edward was sick. At 7 P.M. he came into

the room where Ada, the sick child and myself were. We were all delighted to see him. He had had great anxiety from the moment he got the telegram, but fortunately had time to get the cars at Washington that left after noon, and had to wait only 20 minutes at Phila. to take the train to Conshohocken.

9 P.M. Edward has been improving all day, seems a good deal better this evening. Joseph has been down stairs with me a good deal today. All day I have been at home, save that I took Joseph a short ride of only 3 miles in the carriage for an airing for us both.

April 27: Wednesday.

This morning Joseph and myself went to Phila. after mail time (9 A.M.). Went first straight from the Broad St. Station to Dr. Charles H. Thomas on Chestnut St. 1807, to see Secretary [Dr. Scheideman] of Phila. Co. Med. Society and gave him a photograph of myself to be placed with my Mss. in the Archives of the County Society, the Mss. first to be bound.

Next, to see "Aunt Emily Bacon" ("Mother's" Sister). Found her very poorly; [she] lives at 1030 Spruce Street. She has an incurable disease.

Then went to Broad & Market Sts. Station and got a good dinner. From there to Dr. Oscar Allis on Spruce St. 1610; had a pleasant half hour with Mrs. Allis. Dr. Allis was not at home.

From thence to Arch St. No. 1610, to the house of Lewis Adler, M.D. to whom my paper on Pneumonia was given for publication. We went over it together to "correct the proof." He will have it published, then send a copy to each of 22 Medical Journals for publication. It will thus be extensively circulated. Dr. Adler is now Secretary of the Society.

Home by 4 P.M., Joseph with me all day.

April 28: Thursday.

Have been home all day save a short visit to Conshohocken for garden seeds, and to get a raised portrait from a small photograph of "Mother" (my deceased wife) which we sent to Thuait & Company, Brooklyn, N. York, and the raised framed picture had been sent to Consho. days ago. I brought it home. It is beautiful. Mary is so proud of it. It seems to her as she stands near by to look at it, that she is really there alive and well. It is a wonderful picture. How handsome she was when in her prime of life.

Joseph and wife and son Edward left for home in the 1 P.M. train from Phila. to Washington. They would, if no accident should have occurred, be at their home at Washington Barracks at 5 P.M.

How great a change in travel and in means of communication between here and Washington, between here and everywhere I should have said, within a period of half a century! In 1838 I saw Morse in the rotunda of the Capitol at Washington almost vainly appealing to Congress for aid to enable him to construct a telegraph line from there to Baltimore, assuring them that he could send messages instantaneously from one city to the other. They looked doubtingly, almost contemptuously at his machine, which he was exhibiting and passed on. They seemed to regard the thing, the project, as an incredible matter, a fancy in the brain of a crank.

May 1: Sunday.

10 A.M. Jawood & wife and Bertha and two children, Dorothea & James, have just arrived. They are now upstairs looking at Mother's portrait which we rec'd. a few days ago, enlarged from a small photo of a few years since. It is beautiful.

May 4: Wednesday.

On Monday I attended the funeral of a long time acquaintance and friend, Miss Susan Yerkes, aged 84 years, a school mate with me at Plymouth school nearly 4 scores years ago and a friend ever since.

Yesterday, by special and urgent request of Prof. Samuel Wolfe of Medico-Chirurgical College of Phila., I with gd. daughter Frannie Yocom attended the Commencement of the College at the Chestnut St. Opera House. The Professors, headed by Prof. William Pancoast, came on the stage dressed in "Cap and gown" and long, broad, crimson sas[h]es, reaching from the neck to the feet, a most tawdry appearance they made. It was disgusting to me and detracted greatly from the impressiveness of the occasion. Home by 4 P.M. after visiting Bertha's family and getting things at Wannamaker's and forgetting my gloves there.

This P.M. the Montgomery Co. Medical Society will have its regular meeting.

9 P.M. Was at the Medical meeting. Subject discussed, Typhoid Fever. A great deal of talk, but with the exception of the speech by Dr. Highley, nearly all that was said was from the books and journals.

May 6: Friday.

Dr. Warman of Trenton came here to dinner, after which I took him to the Eastern Hospital at Norristown. At 4:30 he took the cars for home. Then as it was raining, I went to Ellwood's office and while there, my nephew Dr. Lewis W. Read came in and inquired of me how I liked the grey horse that he had loaned me. I told him I was much pleased with him, that he suited me exactly. He then said, "I will give him to you." I said, "would like to have him but it was too much for him to give." "No," he said, "I give him to you."

May 8: Sunday.

9 P.M. Read from early morning till Jaywood and Susan came at 10 ½. After dinner lay down hour & half, then wrote till 3 when Dr. Dolley & wife & a friend came. They staid till almost six P.M. Three times in the forenoon I had attacks of palp. and every time it was put off instantly by a drink of ice-water rapidly swallowed.

Dr. Dolley is in fine spirits in regard to his fight with Dr. Pepper, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania. Two of the Professors deposed by Pepper have already been offered and have accepted situations in other colleges and Dr. Dolley has heard that the President of Indiana College has accepted a situation at Harvard (I think) and will recommend him for president of Indiana College.

May 9: Monday.

5 A.M. It seems early for me to be up, but all my life, as long as I can remember, it was my time to get up when the sun was getting up. And how delightful is the early morning.

“With songs of birds and hum of bees, And odorous breath of swinging flowers,
With fluttering herbs and swaying trees, Begin the early morning hours.” Boker’s Book
of the Dead, page 83.

May 10: Tuesday.

The sun was just showing itself in the East as I looked out on the lawn after rising.
I was soon down and opened all the windows shutters. Tildy “the woman” not up.
Bertie Yocom & James who came yesterday not up, nor Mary. I went to the barn, found
the man who comes from a mile & half away already there.

Saw yesterday in the “Press” that Phenixville [sic] Bank President had defaulted
\$75,000. I have five shares.

It is only about two weeks since the Lombard Investment Co. went up. I had no
stock but a \$500 mortgage from them on a farm in Kansas. The stockholders will lose.
I will have the farm for security. It is risky to be a stockholder in a Bank for if it
defaults, the stockholders have to pay in to the Bank in order to pay the Depositors an
amount of money equal to their stock value.

May 13: Friday.

Evening. I have been very busy since Tuesday with many matters in farm and
garden, and in seeing to my investments and in corresponding with medical friends.
Very many medical pamphlets come to me, their authors being desirous that I shall see
what they have written.

Today we planted several acres of corn (ground).

Bertha Yocom and her brother little James, my gd. children have been here nearly
a week while yearly meeting of Friends is going on. It was very pleasant to have them
here. They took away the loneliness that we often feel when only Mary and myself are
here.

Daughter Frannie Day was here on Wednesday all day. I have had palpitation
every day, some days more than once. Have read much this week.

For many years I was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Society of the
Alumni of the University of Pennsylvania Medical Department. But my dullness of
hearing prevented me, or rather rendered me incompetent to perform the duties of the
office, so I did not attend at all. Now they have made me one of the Vice Presidents.

The Profession everywhere have been very kind to me, considering the opposition
I have so often offered to some of their movements.

May 14: Saturday.

Evening, 9 o’clock. Rainy day. At Norristown on business in forenoon.
Writing letters, reading, &c., filled out the day.

People harp on the shortness of Life. How much time they fritter away in doing
nothing and even complain that time hangs heavily on them.

May 15: Sunday.

Read Friends Intelligencer & Journal before 10 ½ A.M. when Jay & Susan came.
They staid till noon. Had an interesting time with them. Jay has much information on
various subjects. After dinner wrote some additional for my Essay on Women Doctors

and their "Recognition by the Profession." Also prepared a preamble and resolution to be presented to the Medical Society at Harrisburg on Tuesday next.

At 3 ½ P.M. Walter Corson & wife & friend came to see us; a pleasant time we had. His wife is an agreeable woman. They left at 5 P.M.

The trees and grass are beautiful. Oh how beautiful!!

May 16: Monday.

Did a good many things and got ready for tomorrow's trip to Harrisburg.

May 17: Tuesday.

Up at 5 A.M. At 7 left home for Conshohocken to take the 8 A.M. for Phila. When it came in, my Nephew Dr. E. M. Corson was aboard as he promised to be to go with me at 10:50. We left Broad St. Station for Harrisburg where we arrived at noon. I had secured my room that I used to occupy when a Trustee of the Hospital for Insane Poor during seven years of visiting every 3 months.

After dinner we went to the meeting in the House of Representatives at 2 P.M. I was met by the President who wishes me to sit on the platform with him, saying that he had a special chair provided for me. I did so, was the only man there besides the President and Secretary. Soon a paper on Diphtheria was read which elicited much discussion in which I took an active part. After that I offered the following Resolution: Resolved "that the President of this Society shall appoint a Committee to memorialize the Legislature to confer the entire control and management of the hospitals of our Insane in the hospitals now managed by Superintendents, on the Boards of Trustees of said Hospitals." After being seconded, Dr. Bishop of Harrisburg moved that the resolution be referred to the Legislative Committee of the Society; as I, being quite dull of hearing, did not hear a word that was said and therefore did not object to it, it was so referred. So I was tricked out of my Committee.

Afternoon. Dr. Horatio C. Wood read a highly interesting paper on Neuropathy and Insanity caused by it. When he had ended reading it, I waited for some one to speak of it, but no one offered. I complimented him earnestly, but took exception to some of his utterances in relation to Dypsomania [dipsomania]. Though it may be hereditary, I don't think with him that it is irresistible in defiance of all education, moral & intellectual.

May 19: Thursday.

Rose at 5 A.M. after a good rest last night, awakening only once at 2 o'clock.

After dinner, by special request of Mrs. Oberholtzer, the President of the Women's Christian Temperance Union [attended a meeting]. It was very interesting to those who could hear the various reports. Finally I was invited to speak, and I did so, but I find myself too old and forgetful to do it properly. Still I awakened some of them to a sense of their duty in this cause as well as in that of female physicians for the female Insane. They passed the following resolution: Resolved, "That we extend to Dr. Hiram Corson a vote of our appreciation of his life long efforts to lift humanity above the level of Intemperance, and noticing his tender care for insane women, we co-operate with him in petitioning for a Law for their relief."

May 21: Saturday.

All last night I had palpitation which attacked me at eight o'clock last evening. The cold water availed nothing. I fear almost to write this morning as I am so apt to get it if I got absorbed in writing or reading. It has attacked me. I will take the ice water. It has stopped it, so I will write no more, but lie on the lounge an hour or so.

May 25: Wednesday.

6 P.M. I have had but little palpitation since the long spell at last writing on Saturday last.

Frannie Day has been here from eleven o'clock until 4 P.M. Luke Corson, Brother Alan's son came after dinner and staid a couple of hours. He has lived in Nebraska for about 35 years. Has a fine farm there now. Is here visiting his relatives. Makes his home with his sister Martha Styer, wife of Isaac Styer.

We have had very cool, rainy weather. Yesterday morning the Thermometer marked 40° Fa[h]renheit.

Letter from Ephraim Cutter, M.D. of New York complimenting me on standing up so strongly for blood-letting in pneumonia and other acute inflammatory diseases.

May 26: Thursday.

Rainy in the evening. The County is very healthful. I was at Norristown to have some sodding done at Tacie's by my man and boy, and deposit checks, &c.

Have felt very weak. I fail pretty fast, I think.

Letter from C. C. Lathrop inviting me to a meeting of the N. York "Lunacy League & Anti Kidnapping Society" of which I am a member of the National Committee. They want me to come to the meeting June 6th at "Chickering Hall," or else write a paper on the value of women physicians for the female insane.

Letter from Cadwalader Biddle, a reply to one from me asking him to give Dr. Jane Garver of the Harrisburg Hospital for the Insane a letter to the Secretary of the tenth "National Conference of Charities" introducing her.

May 27: Friday.

Letter from son Joseph, who in attendance at a Medical Meeting in Washington heard Dr. Pepper in a discussion on the use of cold externally applied as a remedy in Typhoid Fever, which measure is now being so greatly extolled, say, that he rose not to take other part in the discussion than to say that my friend Dr. Hiram Corson of Pa. sixty years ago not only advocated the use of it, but practiced it and has continued it on Fevers ever since. When an adjournment took place, Joseph made himself known to Dr. Pepper and thanked him for his kind words. Dr. Pepper said to him, "if your father had been a college graduate he would have made an era in medicine. He then introduced Joseph to Prof. Ostler [Sir William Osler], who at once asked if he was son of mine, and on being told that he was, he said, "Dr. you will never be a man like your father." And Joseph in writing it to me said, "It didn't make me a bit mad." He was amiable. Prof. Ostler [Osler] is in John's Hopkins University.

I slept poorly last night and am pretty weak today.

Prof. James Tyson is with Joseph this week.

May 30: Monday.

Until 10 A.M. I was engaged in writing replies to letters which came last evening from Dr. Baruch, Editor of the Dietetic Gazette. Dr. Cutter of New York (Sec. Am. Med. Assoc., Section Physiology & Dietetics), who had been so pleased with my paper on pneumonia that he had written to thank me for it. His letter reads:

May 24/92

Dr. Hiram Corson,

I want to thank you for your late paper on Pneumonia, read in Phila. Co. Med. Soc. It shows a remarkable courage and valiant standing up for the right. Were it not for public opinion, doctors would bleed more than they do; this time-service has swept many people in to their graves. I hope to give my views to the Am. Med. Assoc. on this subject, for in the present fearful mortality of Pneumonia it behooves all to aid in its control.

In Boston, I was told, it is expected that every case will die of course. While I believe in taking blood, I believe more in feeding.

Please accept of my best assurances of respect.

Sincerely yours,

E. Cutter.

To the following from Dr. Mary Dixon Jones, I also had to reply.

May 27th, 92

Hiram Corson, M.D.

Dear Doctor,

I recollect with pleasure the kind letters you have written to me (on the women doctors question). I was glad to see your name in the "Times and Register" of a few weeks ago. I remember years ago, I received a pleasant letter from you and for years yours has been an honored name

Probably you may know that I am one of the assistant editors of that paper. He has special numbers on special subjects, a unique and interesting idea. Soon he will get out an Obstetrical Number.

You have done such good work in that department, will you not write out an article for the number, however short? I am sure the editor, Dr. Waugh, will be glad and more than gratified to see the honorable name of Hiram Corson among the Contributors.

I take the liberty of sending you the Gynecological number containing an article of mine with some original investigations. I also send you an article on "Sterility in Women." Will you read and criticize it?

Next Saturday one of my articles comes out in the Medical Record, which paper is said to be one of the most widely circulated journals in the Country. Let me hear from you, if you will contribute the article in some way relating to obstetrics?

With kindness, and professional respect
Yours Sincerely,
Mary Dixon Jones.

Editor's note: Next to a formal invitation from The Council of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association to a June 8th "Lawn Party" at Wakefield, Fisher's Lane, Dr. Corson writes the following:

"As I am a member of the Forest Association, or rather of the Pennsylvania Forestry Society and the Montgomery Co. Forestry Society, this fact accounts for my being invited. I would be gratified to meet the friends, but probably shall not go."

June 6: Monday.

It is now 12 days since I have written in this book. At the time I last wrote, I was feeling "so weak," and had been feeling so ever since my spell of La Grippe two months or more ago. So weak did I seem, though going about as usual and driving to Conshohocken, Norristown and other places very often, that I on reaching home, or even when I had not been away at all, would feel that I must lie on the lounge, a thing I was never used to doing in my life before as a daily habit.

On Wednesday June the third, I concluded to take a cold bath; so had my "Jimmy" to come after I was in it, naked save my drawers, to soap my back and whole body indeed and with a brush give me a most thorough scouring. The water was tepid and I underwent a good scrubbing from head to feet. The following night I slept well and next morning all that sense of weakness and desire to be on the lounge was gone, and I have had none of it since. Have taken two baths since. Have been in the City getting clothes and today have gone by myself in the carriage to North Wales to the funeral of Dr. Wm. Ellery Ely, grandson of my Uncle Joshua Corson. Started at 8 o'clock and was back at home at 12:30 P.M. Saw some relatives whom I wished to see. Am pretty tired from the long ride and standing with friends.

June 8: Wednesday.

Mary has become very crippling, can scarcely walk if she have not her cane. It is owing, we have believed for several years to her defective, if not diseased knee. But for several years she has had the middle toe on each foot instead of extending out straight like toes naturally are, turned down so that the very end of the toe and even the nail reaches the floor, and as a result there has been on the end of each of them a large corn, big nearly as a ten cent silver piece, which just makes her afraid to put her foot to the floor. I have been trying with adhesive plaster to pull them up on a level with the ends of the other toes. But even if done twice daily, avails but little. I have been quite convinced for some weeks that if they were amputated above the first joint, she would be relieved of much suffering and would walk better.

We have talked a good deal about it and her sisters and Joseph have all come to believe with me that for her comfort, even if she should not be improved in walking, it would be well to have them removed.

So today, Wednesday June the 8th, Dr. Ellwood M. Corson & Dr. Wiley, by previous arrangement, came down and with the aid of Susan and myself as lookers on,

removed them. She was gently under the Chloroform and Ether; did not feel any hurt. It was done about 3 P.M. and now 7 P.M., she is quite comfortable.

June 9: Thursday.

4 P.M. Mary was anxious to sit up on a chair. I took her up, sat her in an arm-chair with the feet on a lower one. It was a pleasant change for her. I am very hopeful that it will be a most decided benefit to her, besides relief of pain.

Editor's note: Newspaper clippings are pasted into the diary at this point, including one titled "OIL CITY'S HORROR. Flood and Flame Hold High Carnival. Eighteen Miles of Death and Destruction." Dr. Corson made the following entries in his diary next to these clippings.

The Oil Creek Horror. A flood and a River of Fire. Whole families in some instances swept away or burned to death. I cannot pretend to give an account of this unparalleled horror here, but will probably put some clippings here from the newspapers. I have pasted some clippings of it in the inside of the front cover of this book.

Another River on Fire. Where are we safe? The Petrolia, a ship loaded with Coal Oil was blown a few days ago (exploded by lightening near Bordeaux in France). The news has just reached [here] Wednesday, June 15th, 1892.

Emma Getman (her maiden name) Atwell died at her uncle's home in Phila. and was buried at the Cold-Point Church on Saturday June 18th, 1892. She was "brought up" in our family and was a very good girl. Went West, married Mr. Atwell in Sioux City and lived happily. After his death took a trip to Tacoma, San Francisco & home only a few months ago. Now forever gone.

Tribute to Whittier. Of all poets I have ever read after, or better, whose poems I have read, Whittier seems to me the most loving soul. There is no revenge in him.

June 12: Sunday.

Morning. The attitude of the Catholic Congress toward the Pope I paste here as it marks an epoch in the march of enlightenment of the people. In the future, I think the superstitions which have held them to the tyranny of the Pope will be left behind them very rapidly. A Humanitarian Bureau., what an excellent thing. There are a great many good people in the world. And when women are allowed all the rights enjoyed by men, the poor will be helped in ways not thought of now. Sunday morning June 12/92.

June 15: Wednesday.

Yesterday brought me letters from Mr. Heyward Drayton, Dr. Ephraim Cutter and two others. This morning one from Sarah Dolley, M.D. I wrote two long ones beside one to Joseph yesterday. The Therm. marked 95° F. but yet I rode a great deal on business for my friend, poor Dr. Shrawder, whose son is likely to lose his eye.

June 16: Thursday.

Have just rec'd. a letter from Miss Elizabeth Forwood, daughter of my friend Dr. Forwood of Maryland who sought my acquaintance years ago on account of my medical writings. Now his daughters wish me to aid them with money to get a

monument for him. They are too anxious for an expensive one. I am willing to give towards one of moderate cost, as they are left very poor.

Candidates of the two Parties for the Presidency.

After a fierce and protracted campaign of many months in which President Harrison was opposed by the adherents to his Secretary of State James G. Blaine, Mr. Harrison was re-nominated. Secretary Blaine whom all Republicans nearly admired so greatly as Secretary of State in the early part of the campaign, wrote a letter declining to be a candidate, but a few days before the nomination was made, indeed while the Convention was in Session, resigned his office as Secretary, evidently believing that his nomination was assured. Now he is out; his name will scarcely be of any weight hereafter. He made a great mistake. His son was greatly distressed and died a few days ago at Chicago. Emmons Blaine, the promising son of James G. Blaine dead. He was wonderfully active in trying to have his father nominated by the Convention at Minneapolis, and fearfully distressed when he failed. That was not yet two weeks ago, and he died a few days since at Chicago. I do not doubt that it was caused by the disappointment.

James G. Blaine has lost three sons within the past year, I think. Has but one left, and he is not proud of him.

If Mr. Blaine had not been deluded with the belief that he would be nominated, and thus induced to resign, he would now stand high in the estimation of the people. But as he had positively declined to be a candidate, his resignation looks like duplicity, if not baseness. I sincerely pity him, but believe he can never recover his lost prestige.

June 23: Thursday.

After several days of earnest efforts by tricky Politicians to defeat Mr. Cleveland, he was nominated by the Democratic Convention at Chicago as the nominee of the party for the office of President of the United States. We now have two very respectable men as nominees of the Republican and Democratic parties. Mr. Cleveland was nominated this forenoon.

June 24: Friday.

5:15 A.M. A beautiful and warm morning. Will probably be a fine "hay-day." We have a couple of acres cut.

June 25: Saturday.

Got several loads of hay in the Barn; cut more.

June 26: Sunday.

Rained.

June 27: Monday.

Rainy; could not work at the hay. All the above days I have been feeling weak, a feeling which I never had until within the past 12 months. It seems to me I am going down exactly as William did during the last few months of his life. Only weakness, yet able to be about and to practice to the very last day but one of his life. I feel very sure

that I am going in the same way. Well, let it be so. I have done a great deal in the 88 years of life given me.

June 28: Tuesday.

When I rose this morning I partly dressed myself to go to Atlantic City to see Bertha & family, but felt so weak, concluded not to go. Have however been to Conshohocken despite two attacks of palpitation which the ice-water put off as soon as I could get it. Have read a good deal, and since noon have been to Norristown to Bank and to bid Ellwood good-bye and get ice, which I have to keep on hand to stop the palpitation of the heart. Coming home at 4 ½ P.M., found Mr. Walter Cooke and his brother-in-law, Col. Whipple awaiting me. They wanted to know whether I knew anything of the genealogy of Mr. David Cooke, Mr. Walter Cooke's family. Had a pleasant visit from them and felt but little weakness while they were here.

July 2: Saturday.

Since last writing on June 25th, my Nephew Dr. Ellwood M. Corson left New York on the 29th at 9 A.M. on board the large Steamer "City of Paris" for England to visit his sister Helen and her family, her husband & two children and returned with them (after two weeks trip through England) July 20th. They live at Cranbrooke, 50 or more miles from London; [they] have been there a year or more.

I am daily almost in the receipt of many letters, some from strangers but mostly medical men, who have various wants, and some thanking me for this or that medical paper and others wanting me to write for favorite journals.

July 3: Sunday.

I have been, for the last three months, having palpitation of the heart every day with rare exceptions and often two and sometimes three times a day. Yesterday I had it before day light, again after breakfast just as I started to go to Norristown. I had gone about 1/8 of a mile, but I turned around, came back and took ice-water, which instantly stopped it. Then I went off, but before I reached Norristown it came again. I drank ice-water, but it failed, was not cold enough. Went to the Bank to deposit checks, to the Trust Co. to hunt among the papers in my box for a paper which I feared was lost; did other things, took water again, failed. Came home just at noon, took very cold ice-water; stopped it at once. Was poorly all the afternoon, with various uncomfortable feelings.

Had many letters the past week, very interesting ones many of them. One wants me to write a history of my life, two want medical papers for publication, one a letter recommending a Book that he has published, another a newspaper article on a reform. So it goes on every week. I feel myself gradually becoming unfitted for writing medical papers. Still I wrote two the past week by solicitation of Dr. Mary Dixon Jones of Brooklyn, N. York, for the "Times & Register."

July 4: Monday.

July 4th passed away more quickly than usual here. I took Mary with me to Conshohocken to see Jawood Lukens, whom Susan reported sick yesterday; found him getting ready to come down stairs, so is better.

Several letters; one of them from Joseph.

July 5: Tuesday.

Getting hay. I am not well, pain, not hard pain in my stomach, nauseating.

July 6: Wednesday.

Getting hay from Consho. lot. I am quite miserable today, scarcely left the house at all, but wrote a good deal at pages 213 to 216, about my heart trouble.

July 7: Thursday.

Had pain and nausea during the night; could not eat breakfast; had almost no supper last evening, but as I had pressing business, I took Jimmy and went there and was home by 9 ½ A.M. Got some oysters and "Tildy" cooked half a dozen or so, which with some tea and bread & butter have made me feel some better.

Afternoon. Went to see how Jawood was. Found him better. I feel miserably. When I reached home I mixed three teaspoonsful of Celestial (1/8 gr. morph.) with some vinegar & syrup, a pleasant drink. In an hour from that time all my pain in stomach and back which had held on to me the whole day and rendered still worse by the nausea, had passed away, and I felt very comfortable. I should have taken it days ago, knowing as I did its effects on others to whom I have given it hundreds & hundreds of times, its great value.

July 8: Friday.

Rose free from pain & nausea and had slept well. After breakfast Dr. Highley came to see me. Susan had told him that I was not well. I had taken two teaspoonsful of "Celestial" = to 1/12 gr. sulph. morph. and last evening & this morning had taken 8 oysters, stewed ones for my meals. No nausea. He gave me 1/50 gr. morph and cal. to take every 3 hours. Have been pretty well all day; no nausea or pain.

July 9: Saturday.

Pretty comfortable this morning, attribute it all to the action of the little morph. which I took. Will take some of Dr. H.'s granules, but the real value of them is nil, I think, and shall therefore not lose sight of the Celestial.

July 10: Sunday.

Morning, 10 o'clock. Slept well. Took a cold bath. It is a splendid day and until now I have been reading "Uncle Tom's Cabin." I read it years ago, but it now seems even more interesting than before in view of the Great War that the conduct of the Slave holders brought on, and of the abolition of Slavery in which it resulted. Then I had the horse geared that I might ride out to the old Quaker Meeting house at Plymouth.

Evening. It was very pleasant at Meeting. All the windows and doors open and such a fine breeze through the house. For half an hour there was the stillness of the grave. Not a cough or sneeze from any one, and if any slept, not a snore escaped him. It seemed a quiet in which I could review the old times when still in my school-days. With George and William I used to come from Hickorytown on first-day mornings, and with "Pemberton," "Eastburn" and "Ed" & "March," sit on these benches near the door and watch the old men, John Wilson, Ezra Comfort, Isaiah Bell & others "in the Gallery." Not one of these there now. Not even one of their descendants in the house this

morning. Comfort and Bell's no longer belong here. They broke away from it in 1827 and built a small house on lands then belonging to the Albertson's nominally, though really, I think a part of the Meeting House lot, gotten off of the old William Dickinson's Estate. Wm. Dickinson was from Maryland, came here and bought this property about 1680. He was the father of Joshua and Benjamin. Joshua was father of Joseph and Joseph was father of Hannah Dickinson who was my mother. She died in 1810, six years after I was born.

After dinner. I resumed the reading of Uncle Tom's Cabin, took a short nap, &c. Had no company. After supper, the "help" went to church and Mary and I sat on the porch till she returned at 9:10. It seemed pretty lonely, especially so when my mind reverted to the times of forty years ago, or even thirty years ago when the piazza was filled with children, "mother" and myself. Times never to return.

July 18: Monday.

I have written none for eight days, as things went on in a routine way. I have not been well during the time. Have been weak, so rode around, here and there to see friends, attend to little business matters, &c., &c.

Jaywood Lukens, my son-in-law has been quite poorly all this time and though Dr. Highley is in daily attendance on him, I have also gone nearly every day to see him. Today is the first time that I have felt that he is improving.

July 22: Friday.

I have been having palp. about two or three times every day, but instantly checked on my drinking a tumbler of ice-water rapidly. Very busy in correspondence, some new ones too.

All this afternoon [was] fixing the pamphlets in the office and putting together those which I have had published, so that I can lay my hand on them. 90° F.

July 23: Saturday.

Dr. Oscar H. Allis of Phila. Jefferson College and Dr. Carroll of Hatboro rode over from Hatboro to see me. I expected them to drive here as they had notified me yesterday. It was a visit of real friendship. They staid also to tea. It was I think a really satisfactory visit to them and know it was to me. It is wonderful what hosts of friends my writings have gathered around me.

Two new and interesting Correspondents came this week. One in Oswego, New York, an elegant writer and old practitioner, Dr. C. C. P. Clark. The other Dr. Murdock of Pittsburgh; also [one from] Mrs. Lovell of Bryn Mawr, the President of the W. C. T. Union of our County. All want replies and Dr. Murdock wants a photograph and sent me his.

July 24: Monday.

Very hot last night. The first night I have sweat much in bed. 8 A.M., 86° F. The Therm. reached 88 F° at noon. Did not go out much, once to Consho. to see Jay.

July 25: Tuesday.

Started at 7 A.M. to Bryn Mawr to see Mrs. Sorell and took with me much

vivisection literature for her use, and arranged with her to have petitions signed in every County by the "Women's Christian Temperance Unions, in favor of dispensing with Superintendents for the State Hospitals for the Insane and to confer the entire management on the Board of Trustees as is now the case at the great Norristown institution. We arranged matters, met Dr. Linn, her next-door neighbor, who told me how delighted he was to meet me, having read so many of my published papers, though he does not practice. Got home at noon, after calling on Jawood & Susan. Advised cold bath for Jawood.

8 P.M. Jawood & Susan here at 5 P.M. Jawood had taken the bath and was delighted with the effect; [they] went home at 5 ½.

Wrote to Prof. Pepper and sent him the "Balneology Journal," by Dr. Baruch, which contains my paper on "Cold as a Remedy in Inflammatory Disease" published in the "Transaction of the International Medical Congress," held in Washington a few years ago. Have felt wonderfully well all day. Therm. at 2 P.M. 102° F.

July 28: Thursday.

Thomas and Helen Hovenden and their two children, Thomas and Martha, and Dr. Ellwood Maulsby Corson who had gone over to England to return with the former after a brief stay, made the voyage from Liverpool to Sandy Hook in the Bay of New York in five days, hours, minutes in the "City of Paris." Left there on the 20th of July.

They all came to see us Wednesday evening, July 27th. We were right glad to have them home again. The Hovendens had been away a year or more and had visited Paris, Rome and many other noted places.

July 29: Friday.

Last Tuesday, the day I was at Bryn Mawr, [the] afternoon was intensely hot, Therm. 102°, hotter than I ever knew it to be here. Today Jawood Lukens, my son-in-law who has been poorly for some three weeks, went to Atlantic City, his wife and his brother Charles went with him to the "Sea Bright." He seemed to me quite poorly and the day was scorching, 100 at 2 P.M.

July 30: Saturday.

There was a fine shower last evening, but the night was hot, hard to bear, and it is still very hot this morning. I went at 8 A.M. to Norristown and paid my taxes (County), \$141 & cents; did other business. Dr. Ellwood told me that Leticia Yerkes, née Jarrett, is dead; will be buried on Monday. Poor woman! She lost her favorite son a few months since and she could not be comforted. Has broken down and died. Dr. Ellwood they want to be a pall bearer. Died at Moorestown, New Jersey.

Dr. George Maulsby, a playmate and school mate of my early days, studied medicine with Dr. Richard D. Corson after I had graduated. I had studied with Dr. Corson. He afterwards entered the U. S. Navy. After being retired, married and lived in Washington; died a few years since, only a few days before brother William to whom he was greatly attached.

He left quite a large estate in Washington. One half he gave to his niece Ida Corson, daughter of my brother George, whose wife was his sister, the other half to his widow, she who has just died. All that half now comes to Ida, during her life.

4 P.M. Mr. Hovenden just now stopped to tell me that Ida arrived at Norristown this forenoon, soon after Ellwood had got the telegram announcing Mrs. M.'s death. She had left Elberon, [New Jersey], her aunt being quite well for her to be, at 7 A.M., and at nine Mrs. M. was dead, and the telegram reached Ellwood before Ida reached there. She and Ellwood started immediately for Elberon where in the Cottage they, Mrs. M., Ida & Louisa Lovett had been spending the hot season.

July 31: Sunday.

6 P.M. Dr. Highley called after dinner to say that he went to Atlantic City yesterday to see Jawood, found him a little better. Bore the ride down pretty well.

I have had to write seven letters today, [to] Joseph, Susan, Mr. Dambly (an Editor); Dr. Warman, Trenton; Aunt Harriet Foulke; Phebe Earle Gibbons; Miss Adele Biddle, Secy., Anti-vivisection Society of Phila. The drought is over & the heat.

Have also read Friends Intelligencer and two numbers of the Antivivisection Paper and some other things.

Every day now I have attacks of palpitation, but can speedily put them away by drinking ice-eater, and now I wait a while before taking it and some of [them] cease in a few minutes without using it, so that I really am but slightly inconvenienced by them.

Another letter, Dr. Mary B. Werner, 1514 Arch St., Phila. She wants to come upon a visit. She is a surgeon. This makes 8 today.

August 2: Tuesday.

After Mrs. Maulsby died at 9 A.M., her niece, Miss Louisa Lovett placed the matter of caring for the body and preparing it for internment in the hands of an undertaker and left for Mount Airy to see her aunt, Mrs. Commodore Breeze, and when she got up there she found that Mrs. Breeze, sister of Mrs. Maulsby had died seven hours before Mrs. M. had, at 2 o'clock in the night. So when Dr. Ellwood and Ida got back to Elberon, the house was shut up, no one there to receive them and they returned after night. This evening funeral services will be held at Mt. Airy for both, & tomorrow Mrs. M. will be taken to Washington, Mrs. Breeze to Detroit.

Son Dr. Joseph K. Corson from Washington came in upon me today at 11 A.M. unexpectedly, and at 2:53, I saw him to the cars at Spring Mill on his way to "Sea Bright" at Atlantic City where Jawood & Susan and daughter Frannie Day are staying. Jawood is still far from well.

I spent some time this P.M. arranging my Scarlet Fever papers. Was busy till night at many things.

August 3: Wednesday.

At half past one o'clock last night I had a palp. The cold ice water [I] drank several times did not take it off till half an hour or more. Had it again at 3 A.M. and at 5 A.M., and three times since then. It is now only nine. The ice water has taken all of them off on the instant. For several weeks the Palp. has given me but little trouble. Generally only once or twice a day & readily stopped by the ice-water.

This morning I expected to go to Atlantic City and towards evening to return with Joseph, but on account of my poor rest last night did not go, and I feel that it was fortunate that I did not as I since found a proof sheet of my paper now being published in the Times and Register, that had been mislaid and needed my attention.

Also a book on Hydropathy sent me by Dr. Sihler weeks ago, which I fear I had not thanked him for, or replied to his kind note and his wish that I send him some of my publications on the use of cold as remedies in fevers, &c., &c.

August 5: Friday.

Yesterday Joseph & self went to Norristown to Tacie's, to E. M. Corson's office, to Bank, &c., &c. In the afternoon to Dr. Highley's, Emily Corson's, &c. Thomas Yocom is here at night, since Jay & Susan went to Atlantic City.

This morning at 7:11, Joseph left Spring Mill for Washington and expects to leave there at 3 P.M. for Fort Bridger to stay nearly a month. Ada & Edward go along. Ada's mother is quite poorly and has just gotten home from San Francisco.

Palpitations numerous; one last night and one yesterday lasted a good while. The water [was] not cold enough at first.

August 6: Saturday.

Have been engaged today in getting my Scarlet Fever papers together, and this afternoon took them to Norristown to see what I could have them published in book form for, in better language, what it would cost to have them published in book form? Left them with the publisher so that he could make a proper estimate.

Have not heard from son-on-law Jawood Lukens who is sick at Atlantic City since yesterday. I expect Joseph got started with his family yesterday, for Fort Bridger, Ada's old home, where her mother is now sick. It is thousands of miles away. When I was a young man, Ohio was the far West. All beyond was a vast unknown wilderness to us. The narratives of the brave pioneers & Clarke [sic] seemed like wildest romances. Oh! what wonderful changes have taken place in this Country during my life-time.

Three old ladies have passed away this week, widows of Officers of the Army & Navy: 1) Mrs. General Thomas, U. S. Army; 2) Mrs. Commodore Breeze, U. S. Navy; 3) Mrs. Dr. George Maulsby, U. S. Navy, and

Mrs. Jones Yerkes, or better Mrs. Letitia [sic] Jarrett Yerkes, niece of Dr. Geo. Maulsby, sixty years of age. To all of these my nephew Dr. Ellwood Maulsby Corson had attended, and my niece, his sister Ida Corson, who resided with her aunt, Mrs. Dr. Maulsby, had a most trying time managing in the case of Mrs. M. & her sister Mrs. Breeze.

August 7: Sunday.

Had palp. at midnight, at 1 ½, at 3, at 7 and four times today. Have been twice to Conshohocken today to see how Jawood is. He has been much more seriously ill than I had known. Could not hear any thing about how he now is.

Thomas Hovenden and I arranged to go to Atlantic City in the morning.

August 8: Monday.

Slept pretty well last night. Thos. Hovenden and myself had arranged to go early

this morning to Atlantic City to see Jawood Lukens who is at the "Sea Bright" very sick, but at 5 ½ when I got up I did not feel well. So declined to go. Have since heard from Thomas Yocom, my gd. son who came from there last evening that Jawood is better than last week.

I have just finished one letter to Joseph at Fort Bridger, Wyoming, and another to daughter Susan Lukens at Sea Bright.

August 12: Friday.

It has been so intensely hot every day since last writing that I have gone away scarcely at all and have done almost no writing of any kind. Nothing of great importance has occurred here. Even the Homestead troubles at Pittsburgh are quiet.

Jawood Lukens is improving at Atlantic City. I have had a ride to Chestnut Hill this P.M.; took Mary with me. Collected some interest.

We have had the longest spell of weather in which the Temp. was above 90° F., one day 102° F., ever I have experienced, or at least ever remember.

August 13: Saturday.

Up early, 5:20. Concluded, as it was a most delightful morning, cool 72°, bright, cheery every way, that I would dress myself in my best toggery so that if it were convenient to go to Atlantic City to see Jawood Lukens and my daughters, that I could go.

After breakfast Jimmy, my little boy, took me to Dr. Highley's at Conshohocken. He could not go with me and told me that Charles Lukens' wife told him yesterday that she "hoped I would not go down to see Jawood for fear it would upset him, that Joseph's visit she feared had done so." Then I resolved to go, and away I went for the 8 o'clock train. In a few minutes I was whirling on and soon at Broad & Market Depot. A minute more and I was in Market St. Cable Car; soon at the "Ferry," at 9:20 left Camden, at 10:40 in Atlantic City, at 10:50 at Bertha's, who at once gave me a cup of tea, or rather her daughter Frannie did. A few minutes more and I was in the "Sea-Bright" Hotel and met daughter Susan and Dr. Tom Read, Jawood's physician. We went in to see Jawood who seemed to be doing very well. Dined at Bertha's, which means in the customs of the country, at James Yocom's, her husband. But as the house and the family are certainly as much belonging to her as to her husband, I speak as I do. At 3 P.M. I left for home, after having a pleasant time with my children and grand children. At 5:10 left Broad St. Station for Conshohocken, where Mary met me in the carriage, Jimmy driving, and I was soon home. Pretty tired, but all right. Had a good supper, my appetite being pretty sharp from the trip. Went to bed before nine P.M.

August 14: Sunday.

It was almost too cool for me in the Cars, such a change is there in the weather. And now, after a good rest and sleep, here I am, 6 ½ o'clock, fairly well and writing with a poor pen, convinced "there is no place like home."

August 21: Sunday.

6 ½ A.M. Seven days since I last wrote! So busy have I been that it seems but a

day or two. I have though written a great many letters and have rec'd. some from unlooked for sources.

My Pneumonia papers have attracted much attention. There appeared in The Daily Herald an article entitled Dr. Hiram Corson's Theory as to the efficacy of Blood Letting in treatment of Pneumonia. I will paste it here. A day or two after another was sent to me from Ithaca, N. York, of like kind but containing the whole article. If I can get it again, I tent it, will pin it here. It was written by Hon. [Edward Fitzgerald Beale] United States Minister to Greece and Austria [Austria-Hungary]. He states too that Dr. Sabal now sojourning in that region is personally acquainted with me and highly approves the treatment. The writer also quotes the Dr. Eames, Surgeon General of the Royal English Navy after thirty years experience corroborating my views of the value of blood-letting.

My new friend Dr. Clark of Oswego, N.Y., has written to me again and is as enthusiastic in his love as at first.

Jawood Lukens is getting better. I wrote to son Joseph every day save one last week to let him know how Jay progressed. Jos. is away at Fort Bridger.

On Thursday took Mary to Phila. on her way to New Hope with her sister Frannie Corson Day. Bertha & Charley Day came to stay with me till Mary shall return.

I have had palpitations about four times every 24 hours every day last week, save yesterday. The ice water stopped it.

These are fearful times in Tennessee in the coal mines where convicts are employed; soldiers called out; Battles; many killed, &c.

But the Rail-Road Strike in Buffalo, where thousands of men needed to run the cars on the many roads conveying to that place, is so far beyond the Southern difficulty that [it] seems of no moment.

The President of the Reading system is firm, will not arbitrate, and is taking on hundreds of non-union men. I hope they will succeed as did the Carnegie managers at "Homestead." These Unions seem to me a fearful curse to our country. All over our country the "Unions" are producing trouble.

I visited Aunt Emily the day that I took Mary to Phila. She is very ill again after her friends considered her almost well. Was riding out and apparently well. They are expecting her death hourly. I do not. There is a strong nervous disturbance, and that is the result of being told that she cannot get well. The first doctor she had told her so and was the cause, I believe, of the strong nervous., I had almost said hysterical symptoms so conspicuous all through her sickness.

Have had things fixed up about the place.

August 24: Wednesday.

Death of Mrs. Emily Foulke Bacon, daughter of Edward Foulke and Tacie Jones Foulke of Penllyn, Montgomery Co., Pa. and widow of Charles Bacon Jr. Emily was the youngest of Edward Foulke's daughters, aged. She has been ill for a year nearly and died at 1030 Spruce St., Phila. of Uterine Cancer, it is said. She suffered much.

She was a beautiful woman a year ago. When I saw her at that time, I thought I had rarely seen so a fine looking woman. She was too as good as she was fine-looking. She died yesterday, August 23rd at 4 P.M. & we are invited to attend her funeral at 4 P.M. tomorrow at Holy Trinity Church, 19th and Walnut Sts. to be buried at Woodland

Cemetery. There are now only Mrs. Rebecca Corson and Mrs. Hannah Bacon left of that large family.

August 25: Thursday.

After dinner Bertha Day and self went to Phila. to the funeral at 1130 Spruce St. At 3 ½ P.M. we took one of the half dozen carriages to go to Holy Trinity Church, cor[ner] 19th & Walnut. After the assistant had mumbled off the ceremony, called "services," we all went to "Woodland" Cemetery and buried dear Emily. There were only about 20 of us, all told.

August 27: Saturday.

Bertha is here, also Bertie Day and Charley. All day I felt cold. After dinner lay on the lounge a couple of hours, and when I got up felt chilly, but had no palp all day. Just before 10 P.M. I undressed and went, or was about going into the bath, when I felt as if a chill were on me, but I stepped in, but got out again quickly and putting on my clothes for the night, went to bed. Soon got up and put on more clothes, feeling all the time that I had not enough, though I had a great load. Slept some, awoke at ¼ of 12. At one had palp.; took the ice water; had.....

August 28: Sunday.

Had palp. three times last night after midnight. Don't feel well this morning. Up at 6 ½; stiff across the loins. Have taken cold. Went to meeting at 10 A.M. At noon, Richard Day came in. After dinner, he and his son Charley went to hunt minerals. Our Friends Meeting was still as death until Joel [Lair] began to preach. I of course, did not hear what he said, but I have heard it many, many times. How changed the personnel of the Meeting from thirty years ago! Now I have only Lewis Lukens & Joel left to me of all my contemporaries of fifty, even twenty years ago.

The Friends Intelligencer of yesterday is very interesting. It has been much improved by the present Editor, Howard M. Jenkins. I must write to him and thank him for his intelligent management.

September 2: Friday.

At 5:30 when I got up, the woman says it was 49° at 5 A.M. Three weeks ago we were swelling under 80° in the morning and 102° at 2 P.M.

Three palpitations last night from midnight till 5 this morning. Slept pretty well in the intervals. My cold is better. The small doses of sulph. of morph. did the work well. I am pretty poorly with my painful back, my palp., poor appetite, &c., &c., and above all, my general wakefulness, but still I have a good deal of enjoyment in various ways.

Mary is to come home today. I expect to meet her and Franny Day in Phila. this P.M.

September 4: Sunday.

6 o'clock On Friday at 3:53 P.M. went to Phila. to meet Mary and Frannie from N. Hope. They came. I brot Mary home & Frannie went to hers. Mary seems to have had a delightful time. They were "so kind to me."

I was so poorly on Thursday & Friday that I could not go to New Hope, and so concluded to take a little more than an eighth of morph. in the whole 24 hours. Did so and though it did prevent my getting the palps., I could sleep better. So yesterday I took during the day $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. of morph. in hope that it would prevent the palps. from coming as well as make me sleep better. But last night, I had three attacks, so will not take any today and perhaps none tonight.

Rec'd. a letter from Frannie Cresson that her mother, my dau[ghter] Tacie wants to come here to spend the day. I will probably go for her after breakfast. It is not yet seven o'clock. Tacie, with all the perplexities which she has is so cheerful that it will do me good to have her here.

During the last few days I have been reading various Lectures by Kingsley, and oh! how interesting they are!

How long can I bear these attacks of palp., arrest them by drinking ice-water and live? I do not know. No one does, but this I know, that I weaken pretty fast.

This morning all are away except Mary and myself and the woman in the Kitchen. How nice & quiet it seems. Joseph & family will soon return from Fort Bridger.

Evening. Did not go to Meeting today, but went soon after breakfast to bring Tacie down to spend the day. After that went with Dr. Leedom by request to see the Methodist Minister's wife; found her dying. She died at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ P.M.

Afternoon had company.

September 8: Thursday.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday [I] was quite poorly with a bad cold and most harassing cough, save when under the effects of morpheum. $\frac{1}{8}$ of a grain, one half of it in the morning and the rest at 3 P.M. had a good effect on me. So, I did not go away much, but wrote a long article for the Phila. Public Ledger on "Reminiscences of the Cholera of 1832." Have just sent it to the Editor.

Daniel Dougherty, The "Silver Tongued Orator" as he has long been called, is dead. Died on Tuesday 6th and the Poet John G. Whittier [is] very ill.

I did not get to sleep last night until 3 o'clock this morning. Had avoided to take any anodyne, but finally had to take it to stop the cough. But for that, I was comfortable though not sleeping.

A Fright. After Charley Day and Bertha, my gd. children, went home, after Mary's return from her Bucks Co. visit, Geo. Baker, a hired man working for me at the bottom of my lot in front of Albertson's farm house, told me that the day or two before they left, he saw smoke rising at the back of my barn and immediately ran up to see the cause. There he found Charley Day building a fire against the end, wooden end of my straw-house. There was only a single board between his fire and the straw, and in addition to that, there was a slit between the lower end of the board and the ground where he built the fire. Had he not been seen, we would have been utterly burnt out. I was frightened when I saw what he had done. Our buildings are so close together, the barn and all out-houses frame, the barn well filled with hay and straw, and we without water to put out a fire. What a mercy for us that he was discovered.

Visit from Heyward Drayton & wife. Mary and self started at 10 o'clock to the Post Office but before reaching it, met Mr. Heyward Drayton. We came back and they spent an hour with us very pleasantly.

Had three letters from the P.O.

Death of John Greenleaf Whittier, the Quaker Poet. He died at 4:30 o'clock, Sept. 7th. A grand example of noble manhood. How have I loved to read his poems, to me the most pleasing, take them as a whole, that I have ever read. How stirring those written in the interests of the slave, and against slavery! How inspiring to noble resistance of the Rebellion, those written during that attempt of the Southern Rebels to found a Republic based on slavery, and the destruction of the American Union of States.

The newspaper articles of today in relation to his death and works I will paste in the back part of this book. I have often seen him in "Anti slavery times." During his editorship of the "Pennsylvania Freeman," I took his paper and afterward also when edited by Mr. Miller McKim. Years after McKim left it, I was requested to visit him professionally at Orange, N. Jersey just before he died.

September 11: Sunday.

There is a mixture of Friends' forms with the "forms of the world" in the above heading [First-Day Sep 11th 1892].

Last week I sent a paper, "Reminiscences of the Cholera of 1832" to the Public Ledger for Publication, inasmuch as the people are now greatly excited on the subject. As it did not appear next day and as I feared that one page had dropped out, I went down on Friday to see about it. I saw Dr. Burk in the office, and saw my paper lying on the table. He said they were so full of the from day to day doings of the Quarantine Committees & others on the subject that he would prefer to leave it for a time. Dr. Henry Hartshorne had sent his Cholera pamphlet and without any direction save turning down of leaves, and he did not know what to do with it. I got leave to bring mine away for the present. Glad I was to get it.

The Arctic Sea: Or the Voyage of the Kite. Dr. Burk, who was one of the Exploring Expedition, presented me with the Book. Yesterday I read much of it and hope to finish it today. It is very interesting. Of course a small affair compared with the histories of the Ross, Kane and Greeley expeditions, as the Kite only took up the Pearey [Peary] Party and in a few days returned, leaving Lieut. Pearey [Robert E. Peary] and his wife to brave a winters residence there with a few Eskimaux [sic] Indians in one of the dreariest places, Lieut. Leary not yet able to walk on his broken leg.

4 o'clock P.M. I have just finished reading it. It was satisfactory because so brief and yet so interesting in relation to the dangers of the Expedition and in the lives and habits of the Eskimos, now spelled Eskimos instead of Esquimaux, of that dreary region. It was a pity that it was named Greenland.

This book says it was so named by "Eric the Red," who was a turbulent noble man banished from Denmark and later from Ireland, who sailed westward to the Coast of Greenland. It is related in the Old Chronicles, hoping that a fair name would attract Colonists to settle. That was in 986. The remains of Eric's buildings are still there at Friedrichshaab [Fredrikshov], p. 203 of the Book.

I have regarded Greenland, from the name, as a region where though there were miles and miles of ice-cap covering the land, yet there were many spots of many acres in which vegetation abounded. This expedition has made the case plain to me. It is just an area with ice. There are no tillable land, nothing but ice, & snow save in a few indentations on the Western Coast where ships may stop. The Kryolite [cryolite]

imported to Phila. comes from Iragot [Ivigut] on the eastern coast. I have not had a plain.

September 13: Tuesday.

The Phila. people are making strenuous efforts, by quarantine, to keep the Cholera from reaching the City.

September 14: Wednesday.

Joseph arrived. Last evening as we were sitting around the parlor table, we heard the dining room door open and in a minute more, Joseph was with us. We had been expecting him for a day or two. He reached Washington from Fort Bridger yesterday morning. Ada & Edward their son & Edgar, Ada's brother, will be on today.

Ada and brother Edgar Carter came at 6 P.M. I went to Norristown this P.M., took Mary with me; took corn for boiling and a peck of Seckel pears for Tacie and got hair cut and got ice. When I was getting my hair cut I felt poorly, thought I could hardly wait until he could finish. Felt better pretty soon when I got out into the open air. When I reached home, went to bed until visitors came, Dr. E. M. Corson's wife & daughter and Mrs. Wilkinson, mother of Mrs. Corson, also Mrs. Follen Corson. Felt pretty miserable.

September 15: Thursday.

Ada & Edgar went to Phila. to see Baldwin Engine Co. Edgar wishes to "learn the business." I have been pretty miserable all day, pain in my right breast especially, and though I know that it is neuralgic only, it is uncomfortable to a considerable degree. Have taken an eighth of a grain of morph. today in two doses. Towards evening Joseph and I went to Conshohocken, merely to ride. I stopped with Charley, or rather Charles Heber Clarke. He was to give an opinion on the Book "on Municipal Reform," sent to me by Dr. C. C. Clark of Oswego, N. York, the author. His opinion is wholly unfavorable. "He is a Pessimist." I think Heber is preparing to go into politics. He defends politicians.

September 16: Friday.

Dr. Clark, unlike Heber, thinks that the municipal affairs of not a single city, town or Borough are properly conducted, but on the contrary are carried on by very corrupt men. I must read it for myself.

At 2 P.M. Jos. and wife & son went to Atlantic City to see Jawood & Susan and Bertha's family. Dr. Highley came after this time and prescribed for me, though I seemed nearly well again: Rx 1/20 gr of Morph. one or if pain twice a day.

10 P.M. Am feeling pretty well now.

September 17: Saturday.

Did not sleep last night till 3 A.M. Had a palp. at 10:50 at night. Water stopped it. Yesterday had letter from Sihler, day before from C. C. P. Clark, also from Mary Dixon Jones, M.D. & others.

Jos. and wife returned this P.M. I have been pretty busy at many things. The Carnegie people have arrested many of the Amalgamated Iron Workers who were so

defiant and rebellious at Homestead months ago. The Reading R. R. Co. has completely put down the riotous Union men who caused trouble at Buffalo. Many manufacturers are employing only non-union men.

Joseph's report of Jawood Lukens' case does not give me confidence that he is likely to be entirely well soon. I fear Bright's disease will round up the case, as his limbs are greatly swelled now, though taking exercise on the "Board-Walk" occasionally.

September 18: Sunday.

At 9 A.M. Ada went to Phila. to see her brother's new boarding place, &c., &c. He is to begin with the "Baldwins" tomorrow.

3 P.M. Joseph, Ada and Edward, also Richard Day & Frannie and Edgar Carter are all here.

September 20: Tuesday.

We all went to a Magic Lantern exhibition by Helen Hovenden last evening. Afterwards had ice cream & cakes. It was very interesting, but I was weary before I went there and exceedingly so before we got the refreshments. But we got home and to bed before nine o'clock. I got asleep too pretty well.

September 21: Wednesday.

Jos. & self went to Norristown in forenoon, to Conshohocken, & to see Hon. Alan Wood's farms & the new house of 32 rooms which he is building. It will be a magnificent affair. He has three beautiful farms with fine buildings. The house being built will sweep away \$50,000.

September 22: Thursday.

I have now been three days without taking any medicine, not even the 1/12 of a grain of morph. sulph. that I sometimes took for pain or sleepiness [sic], and I don't intend to take any more if I can avoid it. I feel that, though Dr. H. C. Wood and son Joseph think all very old people should take a little every day, it is best for me not to get into even that small habit. Now I am apparently well in every organ of my body, but still I have a good deal of fugitive pain about me now and then. Yet I think I sleep better without than with these light doses of morpheum.

September 25: Sunday.

8 P.M. It is difficult for me to see the lines. For the past three days I have not taken a drop of any kind of medicine and have gradually gotten better of the weariness.

Joseph & wife & son left here pretty early Friday morning the 23rd and I have since had no palpitation until today. Yes I had it the night before they left for three hours, as I could not stop it with the ice-waster, though I drank copious of it. This day I went to Friends Meeting, after writing till 10 A.M. Soon after dinner I started with Mary to go to Montgomery Cemetery to see the resting place of William (brother), Follen, Joseph D., Charles, Sallie & other relatives and friends; then to go to the Hospital to see my niece Hannah and learn of the death of her brother Humphrey Corson who was buried there last week without having heard of it till it was over. He was brother Joseph D.'s

son, not very well doing, left a wife & children. One daughter married an uncommonly smart fellow, brother to Prof. Hiram Corson of Cornell University.

Mary and I started as I have said at one o'clock. Before we got to Plymouth, I was struck by palp. We returned and I drank ice-water copiously three different times without avail, then bore it 2 ½ hours; then took another good drink of real cold water and it stopped at once. The Therm. was above 80 all this time and I was very uncomfortable.

Two strangers came also, but I did not go to them, Frank Bacon and a friend. Mary entertained them. While the palp. was on me, I wrote two long letters to doctors. One to Oswego, N.Y., the other to Cleveland, Ohio. It is a comfort to spend an hour or so writing letters when palp. is on me. Time flies along better. It is now 8 P.M. and I am feeling pretty well.

September 26: Monday.

Took Mary with me to Norristown to get her tooth pulled. Went at 7 A.M. so that I might be there to meet men who were to repair the chimneys of Tacie's House, my Sandy St. House. Then went into Norristown and did some business with John.

Last night had palp. at midnight. While sitting in the carriage in the town I got it. Went to Dr. E. M. Corson's office, got ice-water and it took it off. Then started for home. Before I got out of the town got it again. I rode all the way home with it on me. Took ice water; effectual at once.

Afternoon. Until 3 P.M. I was busy hunting up deeds and plans of lots in Norristown, Conshohocken, &c. Then went to the latter place. Coming home, overtook a genteel looking young colored man with his boot-blackening tools on his arm. He was foot-sore and wanted to ride if I was going towards Phila. Said he had walked 14 miles and had not had any thing to eat. Brought him home and gave him a good meal for which he seemed thankful; then he went on his way,

September 27: Tuesday.

Had palp. in the night; again today as I was half way home from Tacie's. Ice water took it off when I got home at 4 ½ P.M.

Did a good deal of riding today to see the men at Consho. lot, at Norristown, at Sandy St. House Chimney's, &c.

September 28: Wednesday.

Last night had palp. 8 times from 7 last evening until 3:35 this morning, the next to last spell being nearly 4 hours. For particulars see page 218. Despite it all, and passing 58 oz. of limpid urine last night, I am pretty well and strong this morning. Was up at 6 and busy ever since, now 9 A.M.

5 P.M. I have been quite busy today but have staid at home, worked among my minerals and papers and have written letters, to Prof. Traill Green, letter, [to] Bertha Yocom, postal, [to] Jos. K. Corson, postal. No palpitation yet.

I have two lots in with wheat; have six acres of corn. Men are cutting it off now. It is "heavy." I harvested 75 Bus. Oats, 27 Bus. Wheat. But all the crops would not pay the wages of the farmer, 31 Dols. per mo. and often a man to help him. But as I have plenty of income, I need not worry.

September 29: Thursday.

Rested well and no palp. last night. Up at 6:30. Strange that now for a few days, I feel none of the weariness that I have had for months. This morning as well as yesterday, I feel strong and good. Wrote to daughter Susan last evening.

An attack of palp. at 11 A.M. while in the carriage at Corson station. Came home. Ice-water at 40° F. took it off at once. Having the chimneys and stoves all fixed up today, so that we will have them all right for the winter. Did them at Tacie's yesterday & the day before, at my tenant houses hard by here today. All these repairs cost, but they must be done. I want every thing all right before the freezing weather sets in, as nothing can be done at them then.

September 30: Friday.

Awoke this morning at 5:50 with palp. on me, got up and took ice water with instant relief, but the stomach being empty and the water very cold, I could not take it rapidly, so two light drinks failed. Then I moderated the temperature a little, then drank rapidly and away it went, but now at 6 ½ A.M. I feel cold in the region of the stomach. It can't be safe to have such cold draughts when the stomach is empty. But I must take care and do the best I can.

October 1: Saturday.

9 P.M. Last night I had palp. after I went to bed at ¼ of 10 o'clock. Took water & stopped it. During the day I felt very well, save the occasional pain in my hip and soreness of the muscles of the part, so that I am a little lame when I first rise to walk. Have written a good many letters and have rec'd. five.

Have read Mr. Ogdon's "Progressive Presbyterianism," a sensible well spoken address which shows that Religion as it has come down to us and as it generally prevails, must yield and conform to the truths of science. Tradition must yield or be swept away when it does not accord with the truths of science revealed to us by the investigations of Science.

October 2: Sunday.

Palp. at 10 ¾ P.M. Awoke with it. Ice-water cut it short, but I was much awake throughout the night. Rose early, began to read the Quaker, The Friends Journal before breakfast, and cont'd. after breakfast till 9 ½ A.M., when I went to see Dr. Leedom who is very sick, asthmatic. At 10 went to Hicksite Meeting where I have been going off and on for more than 80 years & where Father & Mother went long before I was born. A small meeting and until Joel Lare [Lair] began to preach, as silent as the grave. Several members slept soundly. There seems too little serious thought among the members. Got home before noon to find that daughter Frannie had walked up from Sp. Mill. She had written to me that she would be there at 10:28, but I read her note Tuesday instead of Sunday.

Afternoon. Took Frannie & Mary to Friends Grave Yard to see graves of Father and Mother, the latter buried now 82 years, the former 58 years. I have paid attention to keeping them in order for many years. Went to see brother George's too, and his wife's and their children's. After[wards] went to Mr. Hovenden's to see Helen, Ida & himself,

and at 4 P.M. took Frannie to the Train at Spring Mill. Carrie Cresson was with us from 4 P.M. yesterday until 1 ½ P.M. today.

October 3: Monday.

Palp. last night at one & at 4 A.M. and today at 9 A.M. Water (iced) took them all off as soon as I drank it, less than a tumblerfull each time.

Began at 9 A.M. to write, copy, the account of John Jerman or John Jarman, the Quaker Preacher from Wales, removed to Pennsylvania. Old Mrs. Tabitha Adamson had years ago told me that my gd. mother Wright was a descendant from him, or from his niece, mar[ried] to John Morgan.

At 10 ½ o'clock while writing, palp. struck me again. The iced water stopped it instantly.

Saturday's mail brot me a photograph of Dr. C. C. P. Clark of Oswego, N. York, a recent acquaintance brot me by seeing my medical writings in the Journals. I must send mine.

The Change in my System

On the 28th of September the unusual weakness and weariness, which has beset me for three months or more, was still on me, and in the night following that day, I had beside one attack of palpitation before I went to bed, I had eight other attacks before morning, all taken off by the ice-water instantly, except one. The water was not quite cold enough, or else I did not drink it properly. But as it did not take it off, I bore it for three hours; then it left. So I was awake nearly the whole night and supposed I would feel badly next morning, but I was awake at six A.M. and when I threw my legs out of the bed to get up, I was surprised that I felt so well. From that moment all the weakness and weariness that have beset me for months have disappeared, and I can now write and read for hours without weariness, and I feel strong almost as a year ago. It has now been six days and my feelings are first rate.

October 4: Tuesday.

My neuralgic hip, somewhat painful and cripples me a little, but in the forenoon after having been to Spring Mill as early as 7 o'clock on business, I went at 9 o'clock to Norristown on business and to get Ice, for it don't do for me to be out of that. In the afternoon, went to see my farmer in Consho. and do many errands there. Am pretty tired as I have been busy ever since 6 ½ A.M.

I have written to all the girls to have there opinions. Mary bothers me to have persons invited to tea or reception on my 89th birth day, next Saturday. I don't want it.

October 5: Wednesday.

1) Have been very busy today; 2) had no palp. last night, none today; 3) have been very well. Have rode [sic] 12 or 14 miles and done much business at Norristown; 4) have had letters from Mary Gre[e]n, Jos. E. Thropp, Dr. Halberstadt, Dr. Eugene Corson and others. Have written several and have also sent copies of my paper just published, Reminiscences of the Cholera of 1832, to several persons. Had one attack of palp. last night at midnight. The ice-water stopped it instantly.

Am in all spare moments reading the "Journal of Marie Bashkirtseff." How much the poor girl suffered, suffering she would never have known, had she been

properly managed when young. Her yearly history written by herself shows very plainly that she had been early taught by the conventionalites [sic] of Society, the Society in which she moved, and by novels that she read, that the supreme object of life consisted in being married to one whose love and whole life were to be hers. How sad is the lives of hundreds of girls "in Society" in our Cities, who have like feelings of them. But none of them make known what they have felt of aspirations and of wasted hopes.

October 6: Thursday.

All day without palpitation. Nearly the whole day at home as the men were using both horses. Finished putting [in] our wheat today.

Read a good deal of Miss Bash – irt - seff's Journal. The fore part is very silly, but when she gets away, after the first one hundred pages, from her lovers, she becomes very interesting. What a fine writer.

October 7: Friday.

Had no palp. last night; none yesterday. I am taking 3 pills a day, each containing 1/100 gr. strychnine, and some milder medicine. Can it be that the Strychnine is toning up the sympathetic nervous system?

Death of young Moorhead [J. Barlow Moorhead].

Twenty one years ago, I attended the mother of this young man in 7 hours of Maternity. She was a fine smart woman, the daughter of John Hickman of West Chester. I soon discovered when on attendance of Charles Moorhead's family that the poor girl had married a man, feeling no doubt that she was making a very good match. He was tall, graceful and his father so rich that they would be well off, even though he should not pursue any business. But he was a regular low fellow spoiled by the knowledge that his father was rich and he, I think, an only son. It was a poor marry [marriage] for one so gifted as she was, but it is easy for any of us to be deceived in persons. The young boy was very promising in early life, the idol of the gd. father's family. Every indulgence that he desired was before him as soon as asked for. There is much published about him, but it is sufficient to know that he was spending thousands on Theatres in Europe, &c., &c. What a sad ending.

Editor's note: A newspaper clipping pasted into the diary reads in part as follows: "New York, Oct. 3 –J. Barlow Moorhead, a young man reputed to be worth half a million dollars and recently a Keeley cured patient, committed suicide to-day by shooting himself through the heart at the boarding house, No. 56 West Thirty-fifth Street."

Tennyson, The Poet Laureate of England is Dead. He died at 1:35 A.M. Oct. 6th, 1892.

October 8: Saturday.

My 89th Birth Day. 7 A.M. Though I had passed a day and two nights without having an attack of palp., yet yesterday as I was riding to Norristown, I was struck by it, and though I took large draughts of ice-water at Tacie's and at Dr. Ellwood M. Corson's, they did not arrest it. So I had to ride home with it still thumping away against my ribs. On reaching home, the water did it quickly. I then felt very well until 8 ½ P.M. when it

occurred again, and then [again] at eleven when I was in bed. The water stopped both attacks as soon as used. But when it occurs at night, it induces a state of wakefulness, and so last night I did not sleep a wink until after 3 ½ o'clock this morning.

After we had finished breakfast, Mary congratulated me on my having reached my 89th birth-day and handed me a present. The photographs of my two long-time friends, "Mary Grew and Margaret Jones," as they are always spoken of, but Margaret Jones is the widow of Cyrus Burleigh, an Abolitionist of note many years ago, so now she is spoken of as Mrs. Burleigh. They are to me precious pictures. Mary had got an old photo from her Aunt Harriet Foulke and had gotten George Lenzi, who married my niece Isabella Corson, brother Joseph's daughter, to take new ones. She had a beautiful frame put on the one given to me. I value it highly. Mrs. Burleigh is deceased, and only two days ago I rec'd. from Mary Grew a memoir of her friend "Margaret," written by herself, a noble tribute by one good woman to her friend.

A few days ago, Mary and her Cousin Mrs. Helen Hovenden concluded that we must have a few friends here on my birth-day. So they made out a list of persons, to the number of sixty, and then expected me to name a good many of my personal friends. I at once told them we would have only a few relatives, my children & nieces and nephews, gd. children, &c. I am greatly opposed to making a fuss over such events.

Many people now make receptions, weddings and so forth and invite the princes and the beggars, any body who will bring presents. I never yet have given a present on such occasions and I never will.

We had quite a score or so of relatives, had a quiet social time from three to five P.M. There were present Dr. E. M. Corson; Dr. George N. Highley; Dr. Oscar Leedom & mother; Mrs. E. M. Corson and daughter Kitty; Mrs. Highley; Mary Livezey & daughter; Thomas Hovenden, wife & son and daughter; Miss Ida Corson; my niece Sarah Jones & daughter and daughter-in-law; Mrs. Emma Jones; Miss Nina Read; Miss Emily Corson; Mrs. Emily Corson; Mrs. George Corson; Mrs. Walter Corson; Mrs. Sarah Corson Garsed (niece); Mrs. Mary Roberts (niece); Mrs. Tacie F. Cresson (my daughter) and gd. daughter Anna Cresson, 26 besides Mary & myself. At 5 P.M. all of them left. I forgot to name gd. daughter Bertie Day and my niece Miss Hannah Corson, supervisor in the great Hospital for insane females at Norristown. So there were thirty of us at least.

October 9: Sunday.

I had arranged to go with my neighbor Joseph Ellis to Gwynedd Meeting this morning, but as it was somewhat cloudy & might rain, I declined. And why was I going? Simply that I desired once more to look at the old house in which I had attended a wedding, the wedding of Jonathan Maulsby & Jane Jones, at a time more than sixty years ago, and when I knew many of the young people going to Meeting there then.

Now I desire to see if there is a single one of my old friends of that time there. The meeting has declined away until there are but a few, 8 or 10 perhaps, even on First-days. But why want to go there? It makes me feel sad to realize as I would then that all my once agreeable friends so full of life and happiness are no more on earth, have been swept out of existence, and the region is peopled with folks who never knew them. We will go another day, I hope.

As I did not go, I have read more, indeed have finished the Journal of Mademoiselle Marie Bashkirtseff. What a genius! And how lamentable that she, so

young and with so varied talents would have been so early the victim of consumption, and lost to the world at the age of twenty three. She was continually as she wrote, disposed to announce Axioms, not old ones, but original ones, but they would not all be taken on trust, or from confidence in her. I feel sorry that I did not note them as I read. The list would be an interesting one. Here is one: "Almost the whole of human genius consists in Observation." [A] 2nd, "Joy is more deeply felt after anxiety," p. 327 & p. 328. This last one is not hers, and she does not realize it in her experience.

Had palp. this P.M. Iced water successful.

9 P.M. Have been very well since the palp. Have written to Prof. Hiram Corson, to Joseph (my son) and to James Foulke, enclosing \$1.00 for a "Lucretia Mott Spoon."

October 10: Monday.

9 P.M. At home all day partly because the horses were both engaged; wrote, read, &c. Had palp. 3 hours in the PM.

October 11: Tuesday.

Daughter Frannie Day came. I brot her from Sp. Mill at 11 A.M. Soon after that I got palp. I did a good many things throughout the day. Isaac Roberts, Cashier of Tradesmen's Bank, had written to me to call in to see him. I did so. He wishes to consult me about Norman Corson who has been in an "Inebriate Home" in Phila. and now as he has not taken any liquor for 8 months and promises never to indulge again, they want his relatives to take him away and procure employment for him. He is Laurence Corson's son, Alan's gd.son.

October 12: Wednesday.

I slept well last night, but had a palp. at midnight. Water stopped it instantly. Therm 46° at sunrise. I feel very well.

9 P.M. I went with Mary to Norristown today on a little business and when we reached there, we found the Main St. lined with people and we awakened to the fact that the day is "Columbia in N. York, or Columbus Day," the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by the great navigator. I say the great because he had the heroism to persevere in his small vessel despite many obstacles, which would have turned back any man not endowed with his courage & his convictions, convictions which then were considered more fancies worthy only of ridicule, if not proper cause for confinement in an asylum for the care and treatment of insane people. There is a celebration in honor of him today in N. York.

October 13: Thursday,

7 A.M. I slept well last night, only awoke five times. Did not lie awake long between times. At one A.M. today (this morning) had a palp. Got up, took 2/3 of a tumbler full of ice-water and at once it ceased. Feel pretty brisk and well this morning.

October 14: Friday.

Beautiful weather. I am feeling pretty fair all round, no palp. last night but one, none today. Nothing of consequence happens.

October 15: Saturday.

Jawood & Susan Lukens returned to their home from Atlantic City today. I went down there at 3 P.M. and found them at home. They have been away more than two months and he was poorly a month before they went down. He has been regularly improving, Dr. "Tom" Read says, for more than a month and he "thinks he will soon be quite well." I was not pleased with his condition when I saw him today. It is true that he seems pretty smart, walks about as though quite well, eats well, sleeps well, &c., &c. But I do not agree with Dr. Read in the belief that Jawood is likely to be quite well soon. He is still somewhat oedematous on the legs along side the tibia-spine of the tibia. He is eating well but he does not increase in weight, nor become full, round, muscular, as he should if he were well. My fear is, without making any examination of him, that he has Bright's Disease, or rather that the kidney affection with which he was first afflicted has not yet been cured. My belief is that he will succumb to it in a few months. How sad if true. Susan, his wife, my daughter, though all the while encouraged by Dr. Read and every one who goes to see him has, I see, great fear and is incredulous about it. But we must hope for the best.

Ida took tea with us and spent the evening here, very pleasantly to us.

October 16: Sunday.

I rose at 6 A.M. and dressed myself to go with Joseph Ellis to Gwynedd Friends Meeting. A whim of mine. I wanted to see the old place once more & to see the changes made there in 50 years or more. Then we had many a pleasant [time] had by there, at Even Jones', whose two daughters, lovely girls, had many pleasant gatherings of young Friends and others there. I was one of the others.

When I had gotten ready to go and before I had gotten out of my room, daughter Mary sent word to me that she was sick and wished me to come to her. So my visit was stopped. Mary had headache and other pains. Gave her some medicine. I had no palp. last night till just before I rose. The water arrested it.

Rec'd. a letter by last evenings mail from Rev'd. J. F. Sheppard, Presbyterian Minister of Conshohocken, asking for information in relation to the extent of the cruel practice of vivisection in our State & especially in our Cities. He had rec'd. a circular from Mrs. Mary Lovell of Bryn Mawr asking him to cooperate by getting the ladies of his church to sign a petition to the Senate & House of Representatives of Pa. against the practice of the cruelty. I have written to him.

Afternoon, 2 o'clock. I have been reading Samuel Smiles' "Self-Help" today and just now on pages 74-5 have read about the destruction of Heathcot's [John Heathcote] Lace Manufacturing Machines by men who deemed them destructive of the business as carried on by hand-machine-workers. It was a fearful attack of the "Rioters," I will call them, a synonym for "Strikers" of our day. As early as 1811 this began. Under an organization headed by General Ludd, Ned Ludd, the Luddites carried on the work of machine-breaking during the winter of 1811, throwing large numbers of people out of employment. The organization became a secrete one. An oath was administered & a betrayal of their designs decreed to be death. All machines were doomed, whether employed in making cloth, calico or lace, and a reign of terror began which lasted for years. Mills were boldly attacked, so that guards of soldiers became necessary. Finally the law was vigorously set in motion. Numbers of the Luddites were executed, and after

several years of violent commotion from this cause, the machine-breaking riots were at length quelled. See Samuel Smiles book on Self-Help, pp. 74-5

“One bright sunny day in the summer of 1816 a body of rioters entered the factory of the inventor and with torches set fire to and destroyed 37 lace-machines and about £10,000 of property. Ten of the men were arrested and eight of them executed.” p. 76 Mr. Heathcot’s [Heathcote] claim on the County was finally agreed to and the £10,000 paid him. How like the riots by “strikers” in this country, but I suppose none of the strikers at Homestead, now imprisoned, will be executed. The Penitentiary though will receive some of them, I think. So it appears “strikers” were at their dirty work almost a hundred years ago.

Genius, what is it? For sensible remarks on this subject see pages 120-21 of Smiles’ *Self-Help*. I will quote briefly: “Some have defined genius to be only common sense intensified. A distinguished teacher and president of a college spoke of it as “the power of making effort.” John Foster held it to be the “power of lighting one’s own fires.” Buffon said of genius “it is patience.”

At three o’clock Jawood & Susan came up to see us. The former looks more promising today. They spent an hour or more with us. Mary had headache and sickness all day, but was glad to see them.

After supper wrote a long letter to Joseph to tell him of Jawood’s case and embroidered it with local gossip.

October 17: Monday.

I read “Self-Help” until nearly 10 o’clock last night and felt fresh and as if I could read for hours, like I used to feel years ago. Had no palp. after I went to bed, but had one attack while reading early in the evening. Water stopped it at once.

Mary was poorly yesterday with headache and also with pain in her affected knee. This is a splendid morning. I have written for Ellwood to come and see Mary who is poorly today. I waited at home all day for Ellwood. At five o’clock P.M. I had a palp. The iced water arrested it at once.

I have concluded to devote myself now to reading and writing instead of going out riding to Norristown, the fields, and here and there whenever I have some petty excuse for going. I want to write a paper on the action of poisons and have been re-reading “Charles Bell on the Nerves,” which I first read 64 years ago. I find that I have not forgotten much of it.

October 18: Tuesday.

9 P.M. I have read much today in *Self-Help* and in *Bell on the nerves* and have been in Conshohocken and Norristown on business. Have had palp. twice, but put away by ice-water.

October 19: Wednesday.

Slept well last night. [Received] several letters yesterday. Started at 8 A.M. to go to Upper Merion, to the South Valley Hill (with Alan Corson, Surveyor) to locate certainly 3 acres & 4 perches of Chestnut tim[ber] land on the hill. I have owned it a long time but never knew its exact bounds. Before we got half way to Conshohocken, I was struck with palp. At the station I got cold water, but not as I thought quite the

coldest ice water. The first tumbler-full failed. Soon as I could draw the second, I drank it rapidly; it failed; took another half one; it failed. My man then took me up to Jawood Lukens, where I drank a full tumbler; it failed and as it was then within a few minutes of the time 9 A.M. to meet Alan at the station, we went there; met him at once; got him in, then drove two or three miles through the hills and hollows to my lots. Then went, after satisfying ourselves that we had the right place at that end of these, two miles further to get to the other end, where we located my lot. Then came by way of Gulf-School-house and Conshohocken home, which we reached at 12 noon. The palp. all this time upon me. A tumbler full of the coldest ice-water stopped it instantly, but I had had a pretty hard time of it for four hours. I took dinner, then lay down on the lounge a brief time. At 2 P.M. it attacked me again. The ice water stopped it instantly. Again after supper, ice water stopped it.

October 20: Thursday.

Was much awake last night, but no palp. After breakfast I went to Norristown; was there at 8 o'clock. Went to see Sallie Garsed about her brother Norman who has been during 8 months in the "Franklin Home" for Inebriates. During that time he has had no alcoholic drinks. He before that was a fearful drunkard, a mere tramp. Had been for a time in Cramps Shipbuilding works at good wages but became so intemperate that they discharged him, and of his own accord he entered the Home where he had once before been helped. Had an interview with Sallie, his sister. I had had correspondence with Dr. James Hall, the superintendent of Friends Asylum at Frankford in relation to his getting a situation as attendant of the insane. Dr. Hall wrote me that if I will endorse him and the young man will come, he will take him on trial. I have had an interview with Isaac Roberts, who has taken a great interest in Norman, this P.M. and tomorrow I hope to go to the Home to see the sup't. and Norman.

October 21: Friday. Columbus Day.

Went early to Phila. to see Norman, but Dr. Hall had sent for him, so I suppose he is now an attendant in the Frankford (Friends) Asylum, an excellent place for him, as I do not think his temperance resolution would last a month were he to come to Norristown.

This business being settled, I visited Bertha and her family; then went to see Dr. Charles H. Thomas; then to see Dr. Horatio Wood who "was not in." Then to see Thomas Hovenden's great picture now on exhibition at "Earle's Gallery." What a splendid picture. Nature is splendid, and this is a copy of nature of an English home, under distress. A constant stream of people poured into the room given to this picture alone. How silent, how intent! Not a word spoken. How reluctant to leave to let the new-comers have a chance to look at it! Never before have I so appreciated the genius and skill that could produce such a scene of life! But I had to leave to get to Spring Mill to meet my carriage. I was home by 2 P.M. Found all well and now since supper, I have written some long letters to Joseph & Frannie.

October 22: Saturday.

6 ½ A.M. It was just 400 years, yesterday, since Columbus saw the land in America. So celebrations of the event were in progress yesterday all over our County. In Philadelphia it was pretty much confined to schools and churches and associations of

different kinds, but in Chicago it was an immense demonstration. The papers are filled with accounts of it.; so many great men there, Governors of several states with their staffs.

Governor Pattison and his staff, one of whom was my nephew, Surgeon General of Pa., Dr. Lewis W. Read, made the most imposing appearance.

I slept quite well last night, had no palp. till 4 o'clock this morning. Ice water successful.

8 A.M. Expect a visit from Dr. Chr. Sihler of Cleveland, Ohio, this afternoon. He is an earnest advocate of the cold-bath treatment of Typhoid Fever according to the German method known as the Brand Treatment.ⁱⁱ His visit seems to be to ascertain how much I have done in the cold-water and ice treatment in many diseases during the last sixty years. I was the first person to use cold-water as drink for children with measles; also have them sponged when too hot with cool water. Have used the cool treatment with cold water and ice in many diseases.

9 o'clock P.M. I went to Conshohocken at one P.M., met Dr. Sihler coming here. As we met near to Dr. Highley's, we went in there and had a half hour's chat with him; then came home and had a very interesting talk until 5 P.M. when we took supper, after which I took him to Spring Mill to take the train on the Penna. Road at 5:54 P.M. He is in earnest in his advocacy of the Brand treatment of Typhoid Fever.

October 23: Sunday.

One attack of palp. last night. Ice efficient. At 10 A.M. I started for Friends Meeting at Gwynedd, taking with me Joseph Ellis. The sky cleared. It had looked as though it might rain, and we had a pleasant ride, reaching there 10 minutes after 10 o'clock, the meeting time plus 10 minutes. There were an unusual number of persons there, as a wedding party, the son of Daniel Foulke & a Miss Lippincott married a few days ago. We were just in time to see them come and to be among the first to go into the house. There was a deep silence for more than half an hour, then Margarette Walton, aunt of the groom preached a long sermon. After another silence of say 10 minutes, she kneeled for prayer. Many rose, but myself and some others did not. After a short prayer & a few minutes of silence, Seth Lukens and Charles Livezey "broke meeting." Then there were many [who] came to shake hands with Joseph and myself. I met several friends of many years ago, some of them so changed by age that I did not at first recognize them. After the social greetings for a few minutes, the people again seated themselves, and Howard M. Jenkins with a book in his hand walked to the Clerk's desk and read a few verses from the Testament, the teachings of Christ to the Brethren "that they love each other." After that the meeting was over and the children's First-day school began to assemble, and we not desiring to stay to that, after meeting a few more friends left and went a half mile further to Samuel Myer's house. He was not at home, but I saw his wife, Hannah, the sister to our good woman, who for more than thirty years had lived with us, Ann White. A chat of a few minutes with Hannah & then a ride of one hour and we were at home.

It is now about sixty years since I was last at Gwynedd Meeting, and not one of the people whom I then knew did I find there. All gone! The then young ladies and young men not one there. What pleasant times we often had at Evan Jones' near there. His daughters Jane and Cynthia, lovely girls, had very pleasant ways and were so social

and kind that we always felt free to go there. Jane married Jonathan Maulsby, one with whom I had been at school with for years. With them too I boarded on first going into practice at Plymouth. She died about three years after I went to live with them in 1828, died about in 1831, I think.

October 24: Monday.

This afternoon there is report of a fearful collision of locomotives on the main line of the Reading Rail Road opposite to Shawmont. Many killed and wounded.

Looking out of the north window as I sit here at my desk, I see the trees stripped of leaves and the ground well covered with the dried leaves. Only a month ago, how green and luxuriant they seemed. Change, change is the common lot of all organic bodies, not more certain in leaves than in ourselves. The law seems invariable, and all the prayers of all mankind united in one common appeal can not arrest the law or the changes going on, [not] for a single minute, and yet people go on praying, praying for the merest trifles as well as for things of great importance.

October 25: Tuesday.

Again this morning or rather just before six, the palp. came as on the two previous mornings, but not once at any other time during these last two days & nights, something unusual. Before Saturday night they were frequent. It is now just 7 o'clock and the sun is fiery red, and the ground dry as powder. There has been no rain for weeks. I am anxious to learn the details of the collision. The Williamsport Express was the fated train.

October 26: Wednesday.

I rec'd. an invitation by last night's mail to a meeting of the Phila. Woman's Suffrage Society with a special appeal to come.

This morning a postal from Frannie that she would be at Spring Mill on her way here this morning at 9:40. So I went to Conshohocken on business, then to Sp. Mill and brot Frannie up. After dinner she wished to go to Phila. to a meeting of the managers of some Home for color'd people, and I went with her at 1:40 P.M. to Phila. on my way to the suffrage meeting at the Women's Century Club House. Took with me the photos of Mary Grew & Margaret Jones Burleigh which daughter Mary had enlarged by George Lenzi from an old Daguerreotype, which I gave to Miss Mary Grew. Staid half an hour, then went to Gutekunst to get some that were to [be] made of myself from an old plate, then [went] home as they were not finished.

Last night the palp. occurred near to midnight, none before 6 A.M. on 25th.

October 27: Thursday.

No palp. last night, nor yet today, 9 P.M. Feeling very well. Taken for the last four days 2 teaspoonsful of a solution of sulphate morpheum, once every day about noon. When full as possible that would be 1/12 of a grain. Can it be that it has caused such good results?

There is a Republican political meeting at Plymouth Meeting opposite the store. Mary is there. I am to go for her but my horse dreads the drum that I am afraid to go over in the dark for her. Helen will probably send her home after it shall close. A

fearful and silly beating of drums & other noises. It annoys me, and yet when I was young, I could bear it, rather liked it.

Since 5 o'clock I have written a second paper for the Norristown Herald on the subject of Cholera of 1832.

I have now 10 ½ P.M. just [come] home from bringing Mary. My horse was so fearful of even the lights. The parade was away to Hickorytown [so] that it was hazardous going, but I got her home safely.

October 28: Friday.

Did not get to bed till after 10 last night. At 12 midnight [had] palp. Ice water put it away as soon as it was in my stomach. Did not sleep till 1 ½ A.M., I think possibly a short time before the palp. came.

Finished my second paper on Reminiscences of the Cholera Epidemic of 1832 before I went to bed.

While at breakfast, palp. struck me. Water stopped it; then I went on eating. Before I was done, palp. came again. Tried Water twice heavily – failed; lay on the bed half hour, then rose and as I did so, it went off, only five minutes ago, now [at] 8:10 A.M.

Rode to Consho. and some other places and felt very well.

October 29: Saturday.

No palp. last night. Slept well. Have been very busy writing today, but oft-times out, enjoying the air and seeing the men at work.

This evening, 9 P.M.. Have written ten pages of letter paper to the Editor of the "Missouri Statesman" about Hospitals for the Insane & thanking him for his publishing an account of the Cruelty practiced then.

October 30: Sunday.

6 ½ A.M. Slept well last night; feel very well this morning.

9 P.M. Daughter Bertha came in the 9:23 from Broad St. I met her at Spring Mill, she having her son Hiram with her. They spent the day here till 4 P.M., then went to daughter Susan Lukens. I have therefore not been able to do much reading or writing, save a few pages that I wrote before breakfast to the Missouri Statesman Editor about Asylums for the Insane.

October 31: Monday.

Had no palp. yesterday, none today until dark. When seeing little Jimmy unloading corn by throwing it in the top of the crib several feet higher than the wagon, I began to do it too. In a few minutes I got palp., though I had not had it for two days and nights, an unusually long time. The ice-water took it off at once.

This P.M. Dr. Leedom took me up to the hospital for Insane to see Lobb who killed his child. He seems to have recovered perfectly. They will keep him there a month longer.

Two weeks ago nearly, I was asked to write to Dr. Hall of Frankford Asylum for the Insane, to get Norman Corson there as an attendant. I did so. He has now been there a week nearly. Today I got the following from him:

Frankford Asylum 9.24/92

Dr. Hiram Corson.

Dear Uncle. I think it is the least I can do to let you know that I am duly appointed one of the attendants here and am in daily discharge of my duties. I realize very gratefully that it was solely on account of the interest that you took in me that Dr. Hall appointed me when he did. I shall endeavor to discharge my duties faithfully and well and thus do you no discredit, for I can assure you that I am very proud of your name & fame. I understand that to you is to be ascribed the honor of choosing the present location for the Asylum. It has certainly shown foresight and judgment.

Hoping that you are well and will there-in long continue.

I am very truly

Norman B. Corson.

Have written a letter to Mahlon H. Dickinson my Cousin, President of the Board of Public Charities, to appoint Tacie F. Cresson an official visitor to Jail, Alms House and Hospital for Insane; to Dr. Dolley my gd. nephew; to Norman Corson, also my gd. nephew, [all] this evening.

November 1: Tuesday.

Slept well; up at 6 A.M. A wonderfully dry time for us in Pa. No rain for three or four weeks. Much drought in the interim. Scarcity of water in the coal regions.

November 2: Wednesday.

Last week I prepared the solution of Morph. which I have used so much for several years in my practice to relieve feelings of malaise of various kinds and gave daughter Bertha 8 ounces of it, as she had used all she had. In using of that from the same bottle from which hers was taken, I thought it seemed to have a greater effect on me than was usual, and after a dose of two teaspoonsful once daily for three days, I concluded to see if I had used the proper weight, the 4 grain one. I looked in the small box of weights and found the 5 gr. weight on top, so knew I had used that. Well I thought it of no moment as there was only 1/5 of a grain in the 4 ounces more than the 1/4 gr. to one ounce. What we used before was only 1 gr. to 4 oz. of water and of that only one or at most two teaspoonsful for pain and for children much less according to age. Well I thought nothing more of it until last night at 12 o'clock. I got awake, looked at the watch, and something called to mind the fact of increased strength of the medicine, and it occurred to me that Bertha might use it on little James only six years old; and then I said to myself what of it? But still the more I thought of it, the more uneasy I became and soon I was really miserable and so it cont'd. till day light. Then I got up and dressed to go for the City. At nine A.M. I was there, soon down at Bertha's. Found them all well. She had only used one dose for Georgie. Had it made right, arranged to bring Georgie home with me at 12:25 P.M. Went to see Joseph Fraley about the Cresson Factory, what we shall do with it. Met Georgie and [came] home at one o'clock. No one knows how I suffered that night.

November 3: Thursday.

Palp. once last night. Ice-water stopped it instantly. Nothing of great interest occurred. Republican candidates very anxious to have me vote for them. The election was so close a year ago that my friend & neighbor Geo. Keys lost an important election by only seven votes. I am so anxious that our Republican Congressman shall be elected that though he is not the most desirable man whom I know, I prefer to vote for him, instead of going for the Prohibition candidate. I will go too for the Electors and some others.

November 4: Friday.

Palp. at midnight. Ice-water did the cure. Very busy both yesterday & today. Letter from Dr. Dolley & from others.

November 5: Saturday.

6 ½ A.M. Palp. at midnight but before I got the ice-water it left. But at 5 A.M. it came again. Ice-water did it.

November 6: Sunday.

Yesterday towards evening a gentleman & lady, husband and wife, came from Maryland, near to Darlington, cousins of Dr. Forwood my friend, anxious to see the Hannah Williams home where she had a Boarding School many years ago, half a century or more, and where their mothers were at school, four girls named Stump. The old homestead is only about two miles from Darlington, Maryland. I was there a few years ago. They are first cousins and husband & wife. So I took them to the old school home of Hannah Williams. Joseph Ellis now owns it and lives there. We went, after being there a short time, to the old grave yard in which and its surroundings they were much interested. Then they went [to] Jos. Ellis' to stay until morning.

This morning I went to Meeting. They were already there. After meeting they again went to the grave-yard, where I joined them and pointed out the graves of some of whom they had heard their mothers and aunts speak.

At three o'clock I am to take them for a brief visit to see Helen Hovenden and afterwards bring them here to tea.

November 7: Monday.

My visiting friends, Mr. & Mrs. Halloway left for home. They were with us from 4 P.M. yesterday till nearly nine P.M. and we had a very pleasant time with them. Had a palp. after they came and twice last night.

9 P.M. Palp. once today. Was at Norristown to do business.

November 8: Tuesday.

Election Day all over the country for Presidential Electors, &c., &c., &c. Voted the whole Republican Ticket, though there were some whom I did not care to vote for.

First Election under the Baker Law. Having seen it actually tested, I think it is a most valuable change. It is now indeed a secret ballot. And not only secret, but what a quiet election it makes.

The elections now are so different from half a century or longer ago. Then there were drunkenness and fighting as certainly as that there was an election day.

Two palps. yesterday & two in the night before midnight last night. I have written it already on bottom of last page.

November 9: Wednesday.

Great Democratic victory. Cleveland elected.

9 P.M. I had palp. twice last night & 3 times today. The ice water stopped it at once, every time. But I think such draughts of cold, very cold water will not be good for my stomach, but I still feel very well and think it better to take it than to bear the palpitation.

November 10: Thursday.

8 A.M. It began to snow yesterday about noon and kept at it till three or four o'clock and then became a light rain, which is still going on. The Thermometer at 38 all this time. Ground still covered with snow except under trees, evergreens. About 4 P.M. yesterday I took 30 drops of Digitalis Tinct. and 15 drops at 9 P.M. Had no palp. all night. Whether the Digitalis prevented it I cannot say, for it has been so sometimes that after having had several attacks near together there would be exemption from them for a day or two.

9 P.M. Had five letters today. Answered three needing answers. Rec'd. seven new photos from the plate of 85 today & sent one to Dr. Clark, Oswego, N. York.

Montgomery County "goes" Republican. Nearly every man on the Republican Ticket was elected on the 8th. Austin Taggart who failed to support my "Bill" before the Legislature last session was defeated by a few votes; served him right, but I voted for him. He has been very popular for several years, even put himself up for U. S. Senator; was known all over as Farmer Taggart. He can now retire.

November 11: Friday.

Friday. 7 A.M. Palp twice last night. Ice-water half a tumbler full check it instantly. Was awake very often but slept pretty well between the times. The morning is beautifully bright, but Thermometer at 29°. It seems early for so cold weather. I will go as soon as breakfast is over to Conshohocken and Norristown, to the latter place for ice as it will not do to be without it.

9 o'clock P.M. Went to Norristown after dinner. Went to Montg'y. Bank to examine my papers in the Trust Co.'s vault. Could not find the desired one, supposed it must be in my drawer where I have many papers at home. Looked over them anxiously three times in vain; was called to supper. After that went at it again; found it; it had slipped behind a box which I had thought was hard up against the back of the drawer. It was a comfort to find it, 792 shares of Beaver Branch Coal Mine. Have been reading letters rec'd. and answered them all the evening after supper.

Had an interview with Dr. E. M. Corson, my nephew, and Dr. Speer, U.S.N. in relation to a business about which by request of Dr. John B. Roberts, I am to see him tomorrow. Hope to get off to Phila. early tomorrow morning.

Palp. struck on the way from Norristown. After I reached home the ice water stopped its rapid flight. Just as I wrote the last word, another palp.

November 12: Saturday.

Had one palp. in the night. Rose at 6 A.M. At 8 A.M. was at Sp. Mill station; at 9:10 at Dr. John B. Roberts' office in Walnut St. above 16th. He wished to get from me an interview in relation to and in favor of a "Bill" to have before the Legislature in favor of a Law to be entitled, "a law to regulate the Practice of Medicine in the State." He wants only a few lines that may be published by the Committee and sent abroad to Physicians in all the Counties to influence them in favor of such an enactment. He had sent me the "Bill" and I had examined it, and think it about as good a one as we can get. I had a claim on the "Legislative Committee of the State Medical Society," of which Dr. Roberts is one. At the last meeting of the State Med. Society I presented a resolution to pass a "Bill" to have all our Superintendents of Hospitals for the Insane removed and the entire charge of the Institution given to Trustees as is now the case in Norristown Hospital. An amendment to it was offered by Dr. Bishop of Harrisburg that the resolution be referred to the Legislative Committee. I want Dr. Roberts to present this to the Chairman of the Com. and have him to call the members together and consider it, and report on the importance of having the "bill" passed. This he agreed to do, and gave me the names of the Com., seven in number. Then I went to Sec. W. B. Atkinson to direct him, not ask him to send a copy of the resolution to the Chairman of the Legislative Committee, and I promised Dr. Roberts to send him a copy of the Law that I want passed.

I then went to see daughter Bertha at 747 S. Broad St. Not at home. Then went to Drexel Building to see Dr. Markley, our Senator, to get copy of the Bill which I drew last winter and which he passed in the Senate. Dr. Markley was not in. I then went to Phila. Bank and got a Dividend of \$30; then to Bullitt Building and got \$15 from Lombard Investment Company, half years interest; then to Kensington Bank & got ½ years int. \$22.50; then back to Broad & Market St. in time to take lunch and take the 1:30 P.M. train for Sp. Mill where the carriage met me & I was at home at ½ past two P.M.

November 13: Sunday.

Rose at 6:45. Had no palp. and slept pretty well. Had gone to bed at 8 ½, half hour earlier than usual. It seemed to be necessary yesterday in the city to walk a good deal to get from one place to another, only two or three squares apart, and yet I did not feel as tired as I have sometimes been when in the City, and I think I now know why it was so and why I had no cramps in my limbs last night as used to be the result of a day in the City. I yesterday walked slowly, very leisurely indeed. On former occasions I walked rapidly, took long steps as one can easily do on pavement. In doing so, one like myself who walks very little when at home, takes short steps and in doing so there is no strain on the muscles of the legs. Often after being in the City, I have suffered the following night greatly with cramps of the limbs.

9 P.M. Have been at home all day reading & writing. Have not had palpitation. It has been a quiet comfortable day. Jawood Lukens and daughter Susan his wife were here an hour or two.

November 14: Monday.

8 A.M. Up early; one palp. at 2 A.M. Ice water stopped it at once. Beautiful morning. Had several letters to send to the mail. Breakfast is over. Frannie Yocom and

little James (6 years old) are here and the little fellow is running around delighted to have so large a play-ground.

November 15: Tuesday.

Went to Norristown and made deposit of the checks gotten in Phila. and also my div. at 1st Nat. Bank, \$30 for half year. Did a good many things, bought a new door mat for Tacie, &c., &c.

The last night had no palp.; none yesterday. It is now eleven o'clock and I have had a ride of a few miles, but as yet have done nothing worth record.

Have had no palp. today. It is now nine o'clock and I have been busy some of the afternoon and evening in perfecting my auto-biography for the Book of distinguished Physicians being gotten up by B. French Stone, M.D of Indianapolis, who wants me to be in it. It is to be written in the third person, but even then everybody that will read it will know that this third person if not myself, wrote what I dictated. This draws a little on one's modesty, and yet one should make it truthful, as it will be read long after I shall be no more, and it is therefore essential that it should be neither more nor less than the truth, and that I have tried to give.

November 16: Wednesday.

Palp. at 2 A.M. A letter from Dr. Traill Green, formerly a Trustee with me at Harrisburg, lately resigned, with message from Dr. Lamberton, also a Trustee with me years ago, now too a Trustee & President of Lehigh University. The Supt. at Harrisburg Hospital for Insane is ugly to Dr. Jane Garver, his assistant, and they want me to support her in her rights. Replied to his letter.

Evening. One from Dr. Detweiler, Trustee in Hospital for Insane at Danville, formerly not with me in trying to confer the management on the Trustees & take it from Superintendents, has now come to my aid. I am cheered by it; wishes me to write to two other Trustees. Dr. Roberts with me too. Dr. John B. Roberts' letter very encouraging. I have signed a recommendation of the Legislative Bill for him or the Committee to send throughout the State to physicians. Representative Goentner, newly elected, writes me and offers his aid. Dr. C. C. P. Clark's letter is amusing and he talks about a visit to me. Will send another photograph. Thinks mine must have been much "varnished" to make me look so young.

November 17: Thursday.

No palp. last night. Slept pretty well, quite well; had not to rise often last night, which [I] attribute to not drinking water so copiously as I have been doing for a few days. Pretty early, before 9 A.M. daughter Susan sent the man and carriage & took Frannie Yocom, little James Yocom & our daughter Mary down to her house to dinner. I busied myself writing & reading till nearly noon, then went down & took dinner with them. Jawood seemed quite well and certainly has greatly improved since coming from the shore. After dinner I went to Dr. Highley's office to read my autobiography to him, to see whether there was any thing so boastful in it as to be objectionable. He thought it "just right, would not strike out a word of it." So I will copy it and send it to the publisher of the book entitled, "Biographies of Distinguished Physicians," as he the author has entreated me to do. Then I came home, and Susan took her visitors [for] a

long ride, through Merion Square, to Bryn Mawr and home again. My evening spent as usual. Now it is nine o'clock and I close to go to bed.

November 18: Friday.

Very rainy most of the day, but daughter Frannie came here, as also did Catharine Forwood from Maryland.

Frannie Yocom went to a small entertainment at Charles Lukens' and had a very pleasant time. I had a good deal of riding, going and coming from the Cars, to bring and take. My man began to plough sod for Spring work.

9 A.M. Have had not palp. since Wednesday night at 2 o'clock, quite a remarkable length of time to be free from it, 55 hours.

November 19: Saturday.

7 A.M. Had no palp. until 2 A.M. So if that time from 9 A.M. yesterday to 2 today be added to the 55 hours, it will just be 3 days & night[s] all to 12 days.

At 8 A.M. I was waiting for the train at Spring Mill. At 8:10 was in it on my way to the City. At 9:10 was at John B. Roberts', 1623 Walnut St. Held an interview with him about the memorial to be gotten up for my "Bill" of the coming winter for the Legislature. At 10 was at the Beaver Branch Coal Company in 4th St. below Chestnut for a Div. of \$15.80. At 11 was on 7th floor Drexel Building, on Chestnut to see Dr. A. D. Markley, our Senator, about our work before the Legislature the coming Session. At 11 ½ to see Jessie Woglom (an old friend with whose mother I boarded in 1826-7, 1827-8 while a student), at 623 N. 6th St. At noon to see Mrs. Caroline Miller & family at 456 N. 6th St. where to my surprise in a few minutes she had a small table brot in and set before me with an excellent lunch on it. At 12:30 took the cars for Pa. Depot, Broad & Market. At 2:10 was in the train for home. At 2:45 took the carriage that was awaiting me. At home in 20 minutes more, and now at 3:55 have just finished writing this; am pretty tired.

November 20: Sunday.

Last evening had palp. Did not regard it for quarter of an hour, and then had not quite enough water at first, so had to have two trials.

Slept well enough, but have lost my best spectacles and now at 10 A.M. my eyes so ache by use of poor glasses that I must stop and go to Meeting or rest then in some other way.

9 P.M. This afternoon I took Mary, Frannie & Miss "Katie" Forwood to Norristown to see Tacie & family, with intention to go to the Montg'y.. Cemetery, but the wind was so keen & cold we soon came home, to hear that Dr. Bennett and three friends of her had been here. Soon after they came they came again, Dr. Bennett, Miss Whiting of Springfield, Mass., her Father an Editor and Mr. John Slingluff, President of Montgomery County Bank, a Trustee, too, of the great Hospital there. We had a pleasant visit from them. Mr. Whiting is an Editor of the Springfield Republican. Palp. at 4 ½ P.M. Water efficient.

Rec'd. a paper from the Editor of the Geneva Democrat, containing a long article for, or about the Y. M. C. Association who are taking measures, or rather drafting

Resolutions about the need of looking to the condition of the Insane. Very silly resolution, as they seem to be quite ignorant of the reforms already in operation.

I have lost my best spectacles and cannot see the lines to write on.

November 21: Monday.

Had much writing to do, a memorial to the Legislature from our Legislative Committee of the State Medical Society. Dr. Roberts wished me to write it for them.

Dr. Detweiler who has been converted to my views about sweeping away Superintendents wishes me to write to others of the Board, and I have done so, to two of them.

November 22: Tuesday.

Palp. last night. Rec'd. a letter today from Dr. Hyath; announces in his reply to me that he will aid me all in his power, wishes documents, &c. I have replied by letter & documents of my own making. [Was] very busy, at Norristown & Consho. on business.

Magic Lantern Entertainment at Helen's and refreshments in the evening. Took Mary, Frannie and Katie Forwood. The views were of celebrated places in London, Paris, Venice & Rome.

November 23: Wednesday.

Palp. last night & once today. Ice on the pools this morning. Wind very biting and unpleasant. Have had much writing to do, but fill an appointment, the man went with me today to be in the "Gulf Hills" a mile beyond the Gulf at 9:15 A.M. to meet Mr. Pauling & my nephew Alan W. Corson, surveyor, to locate some wood lots which I have owned for years, and Mr. Pauling bo[ough]t one recently without knowing where it is. Home at noon. They did not come; a cold ride.

What a wonderful change in all the roads in 60 years. Then but one house in Conshohocken, now a large town on both sides of the river. Then I crossed in the water, now a bridge.

November 24: Thursday.

Thanksgiving Day. A considerable display of meteors all last night. The Philadelphia Press has the following heading this morning: "Earth collides with a comet; Celestial Pyrotechnics Beautiful to look upon but not dangerous; It was not Biela's Comet; Astronomer Snyder says, "it is only a Crash, The Destiny of all Comets;" The Earth stampeded the Stars last night by colliding with a Comet; Any one observant of the sky would have seen the forget-me-nots of the angels darting in droves at times all over the canopy of heaven." Meteoric showers is the term applied by Astronomers to these displays of celestial pyrotechnics. "The earth in its passage through space," said Professor Snyder last night as he stood outside his house, looking up at the heavens, "has dashed into the remnants of a Comet and from preliminary observations I would infer that it was among a group of the Andromedids. This one is not the one so much talked of lately and styled Biela's."

The above from what the writer says, I have copied, as they show opinions of astronomers. The remainder need not be cared for just now.

It is cold. This morning the Thermometer at 25° F. & has cont'd. nearly at that all day. I have kept in the house most of the time.

My second paper on Reminiscences of the Cholera Epidemic of 1832 was published in the Norristown Herald yesterday.

November 25: Friday.

Miss Forwood left for home at 8:45 A.M from Sp. Mill. Frannie Yokom [sic] left at eleven A.M. Today, disagreeable, sharp wind, Therm. only at 32°. Staid in house in afternoon, read, wrote, &c. Palp. once only today.

November 26: Saturday.

Birth day of Mary, also Tildy's birth day. Pretty cold. Was out a good deal, at Norristown & Consho. Collected dues, &c., made a deposit in Bank. Slept wonderfully well last night. No palp., none either today. Rec'd. several interesting letters with promises of aid in my efforts the coming winter to sweep away the Superintendents.

November 27: Sunday.

Up at 6:25. Slept well. Palp. once in the night for a few minutes. Went off of its own "free will and accord."

Intended to go to meeting but had a pain in my stomach for an hour or more & so had to stay at home.

Turned my two horses into the lot. It was a real comfort and pleasure to see them run like wild horses. Oh! the way they went around and around the lot; [it] was delightful to behold, and to them it was a rare enjoyment.

My second paper on Cholera in the Norristown Daily Herald Nov.23rd. The Editor sent me 12 papers containing it.

Evening. I have written to Dr. Detweiler, Dr. C. C. P. Clarke & Frannie Yocom. Have read 185 pages of "Figures of the Past," by Josiah Quincy of Boston this afternoon, a very entertaining & interesting book. Reading it makes me feel so sad that I had not rec'd. a good classical education and had the advantages of such a society as the man spoken of by Mr. Quincy. Perhaps I would now be no better off than I now am. I have attained a full measure of success in my profession, have good children most of whom are "well off" as the phrase is, and have an abundance of this worlds goods. Had I gone then to be educated, my children never would have lived.

November 28: Monday.

Nothing unusual today; busy with many things.

November 29: Tuesday.

The morning dismal looking, rain & snow squalls. Was up early, and despite the unfavorable weather, was at Conshohocken to take the special train to Reading at 8:56 A.M. with the notables going to Wernersville to the laying of the corner stone of the Hospital for the Chronic Insane. The Governor and other notable men, many of whom I know well, were on the train, and Ellwood, my nephew & myself went aboard. We made but two stops, one at Phenixville [sic], the other at Pottstown. After half an hour at the Mansion House, we went to the Court House. Gov. Pattison & Dr. Thos. G. Morton,

son of my long-ago friend Dr. Sam'l. George Morton, spoke on the business before us. Then we took Cars for the Hospital Grounds, near Wernersville in Lebanon Valley. After laying of the corner-stone, Mr. Mernich, or his brother the Mayor of Reading who had kept with me from the time of our going to the Court House, proposed that we start ahead and walk up the track to where we had left them. The engine had not been able to make the short curve a few hundred yards short of the grounds. We found it cold when we got down to the track and I proposed that we go back, but he proposed to go back a few yards to be screened by an embankment and wait a few minutes when the whole company would come down. After a few minutes we went into an Italian Shanty and saw 14 persons, only one woman, all bunched in two rows on the side of the three feet aisle. We could not see the cars anywhere, but after a few minutes saw that the people had left the stand and were on a different road for the cars. We saw that the time was almost up, and we struck across a narrow grain field for the train. Just reached there with our shoes covered with a yellow mud and in a horrible condition but a moment before starting.

Before we had more than reached Wernersville, I got palpitation, and as the water was not very cold, it lasted me till we were but a mile or two from Pottstown. But I said nothing about it, save to Dr. Ellwood, and I was not very uncomfortable, and when it went off felt very well.

When we got to Bridgeport, I did not know that we had to change cars to get to Consho., that being the old line, and was near being carried on down to Phila. on the west side of the River, but Ellwood got me out and into another train which came 10 minutes later. "Jimmy" met me at Conshohocken and at five P.M. I was at home and feeling very well.

I saw several friends, Trustees of Hospitals whom I desired to see in relation to my "Bill" to come before the Legislature this winter, so all ended well.

November 30: Wednesday.

Death of Dr. Henry Dewitt Pauling, Nov. 26th. He was strong and active a week before his death and attending to his practice, although about 82 years of age. Graduated from Medical Department of the University of Pa. the same day that my brother Dr. Wm. Corson did. Wm. had attained at the time of his death in 1886, Nov. 3rd, to 80 years, 21 mos. & 25 days.

Today I went to Dr. Pauling's Funeral. Only staid about 20 minutes. While sitting near a stove in his office, palp. struck me. I called the man to bring the carriage. Had only gone about a mile toward home when it went off.

Bought a suit of clothes for Joseph Read & paid \$16.50 for them of Crawford, clothes merchant, Norristown, after reaching Norristown from the funeral.

December 1: Thursday..

A freezing day. Colder it is said than for many years on this day of the year. Went to Consho., Sp. Mill, &c., &c. Wrote a memorial for Dr. John B. Roberts, one of the Legislative Committee of the State Medical Society, to sign & send to all the other six, so that they can sign it and thus avert the need to call the Society together. I want it for the Senator to use to aid him in the passage of my "Bill" to have Superintendents swept away & the entire control of Hospitals for the Insane given to the Trustees.

December 2: Friday.

Palp. at midnight. Went to Phila. in the 8:52 train from Spring Mill. Walked from the Depot to Dr. Roberts, 1625 Walnut St. Palp. struck me one square before I got there. He was pretty pleased with my memorial and will do the rest of the work. So I am done with that.

The palp. cont'd. on me despite heavy drinks of ice water. So I walked a square, then rode to Bertha's 8 squares, and it cont'd. till nearly noon. I then visited Dr. Markley in Drexel Building and had arrangement with him about the "Bill." Then met Bertha by appointment at Wannamaker's to go to see a relative but gave it out and at 2:50 P.M. left for Spring Mill where Jimmy awaited me and brought me home. But on the way from Sp. Mill had palp. Ice took it off. Then I read and wrote till 8 ½ P.M. when palp. struck me forcibly, but the ice-water put it away again. Now, 8:57 P.M., ready for bed. Pretty hard day.

December 4: Sunday.

Had palp. this morning at 5 o'clock after having slept quite well, only awoke three times all night. Ice-water instantly effectual. Went to meeting at 10 A.M. Have been reading and writing ever since two P.M. It is now 8 ½ P.M. Have lost my autobiography written for Stone's Biography of Distinguished Medical Men. Feel that I have taken a cold.

December 5: Monday.

Slept tolerably till 3 A.M., but was even to that time awake several times. At 4 ½ got palp. and had it three times more after that time, before 6 A.M. The last time I concluded that I would lie still and did so for about half an hour, rather than again drink a tumbler of ice-water. But at six o'clock I concluded to take it; did so at 6 ½ and now 7:10 A.M. am still well.

Evening 9 ½ o'clock. Had a large mail at 6 ½, and nearly all the letters & circulars after money for Societies, "Peace Society," "Refuge Association for Homeless and suffering Animals" (Miss Morris), "Forestry Association," "Historical Society," & renewal of and new subscriptions, &c. Wrote several letters before bed time at 9:20. So busy up to the last minute that I did not expect to sleep well.

December 6: Tuesday.

6 ½ A.M. up. At 7 breakfast; at 8:50 at Spring Mill; struck with palp.; rode home, took ice water; at once well. I forgot to say, I slept well last night. No palp. Palp. again at 11 ½ A.M. Water effectual. Wrote several letters, to Dr. Detweiler, Dr. Traill Green, Dr. Joseph Corson, &c., &c. At noon, visit from Dr. Fury; wants me to aid him to be a pension physician in Phila.

9 P.M. Three times this afternoon & evening I have had palp. Water effectual every time, but this frequency as I grow older day by day bodes trouble.

John Davis, a patient of Dr. Oscar Leedom, wished Dr. L. to bring me to see him. Dr. L. called and I went with him. Despite the palps., I feel pretty well.

Lawyer Fox, Gilbert Rodman Fox, dead. He was very lame during his life from early boy-hood, owing to hip disease; was a good friend of brother William. I liked [him] very much; was 75 years old.

December 7: Wednesday.

Have a cold, pain in my left eye, fullness in my forehead, pain in right side of thorax below sternum. Went to Norristown. At 9 A.M. left Mary at Tacie's while I went to Bank and then to the funeral, to the house & to the church. Stopped at Jacob Rex's, his wife wants me to aid the "Institution for Feeble Minded Children" at Elwyn near Media. As I rec'd. a circular from the Superintendent Dr. Kerlin last evening asking for a Contribution, I can now in one letter sent \$5 and also ask for the child's admission.

While in the church where the "Services" for Mr. Fox were being held, I got the palp. at 12:20 A.M. They were after that soon ended and I made for Tacie's, drank copiously of cold water, but not cold enough [and] failed. Rode home, took the water twice [and] failed; sat and ate dinner, then went to bed; staid an hour; no better; rose and came down stairs. When I reached the bottom it suddenly stopped. Spent the rest of the day at home.

Now 7 ½ P.M. my eye seems pretty well. But what is the palpitation going to do with me? It and the cold water will surely drag me down soon.

December 8: Thursday.

No palp. last night, none today until 4 P.M. Mary & myself, after taking Frannie, who had been spending the day with us, to the Sp. Mill station, called to see Isaac Roberts and wife. After 15 or 20 minutes there, palp. struck me. I came home to get the ice water, as the temp. being 66° F. today, they had none. Soon as I swallowed the water it left. Daughter Susan too was here for two hours today. The girls are very good about coming to see us. At 5 o'clock there was one clap of thunder, an unusual thing to be heard Dec. 8th.

7 ½ P.M. Mark just here a long letter from Dr. Jane Garver of Harrisburg hospital for insane, female department. Dr. Orth, a very incompetent man, is exercising despotic power over her, embarrassing her all he can. She appeals to me. Dr. Green & Dr. Lamberton have consulted me in reference to it. I wrote a long reply to her, promising her very confidently the removal of all these Superintendents.

Also wrote to Dr. Graill Green, making many inquiries of him and suggesting certain movements. I must now be active in preparing for the passage of my bill before the Legislature the coming session.

December 9: Friday.

Rose at 6 ½ A.M. Had slept well, which only means in my case that I had not been up more than four or five times during the night. Immediately after breakfast, Mary & self went to the P. Office for our mail, then to Susan's to see Ada, Joseph's wife & her mother Mrs. Carter who came from Washington yesterday. Spent an hour or more with them, then home. After dinner I went to Norristown to see John J. Corson about our "Cresson Factory" business of which I owned half an[d] gave to Tacie, and on which I now have a heavy claim. Did several items of business. Home at sunset. Have had supper and a few minutes ago had palp. Water stopped it at once. It is now 7 ¼ P.M. What a comfort to me is the ice-water. Am now as well as can be, but how uncomfortable but for the ice-water taken a few minutes ago.

December 10: Saturday.

Slept very well last night. My cold seems increased, and I can't tell how it occurred. At 9 ½ A.M. Jimmy brot the "mail," five letters as welcome ones as ever came together before. The first one from Cousin Mahlon H. Dickinson, Pres't. of the Board of Public Charities of the State, informing me that he had per my request appointed my daughter Tacie F. Cresson a member of the Visiting Committee of the Jail, Alms-House, and Eastern Hospital for Insane females and enclosing the needed documents and certificates. He has just been re-appointed on the Board by Governor Pattison and by the Board elected its president. Well merited compliments. The second is from Dr. Kerlin, "Elwyn Institution for Feeble Minded Children," receipting for contribution of five dollars and earnest wishes for my health, and cautions against exposure. Third letter [was] from Dr. McCormick, Ch. Legislative Committee of our State Medical Society, advising me of my election as "associate member of the Committee." This was specially agreeable to me as I feared that he was offended against me because of my criticism of his address before the State Med. Society and feared he would not sign the memorial asked for by me. The fourth letter [was] from Frank Young offering to pay a note due me from his deceased father of \$244, which he will pay if I will kindly forgive the interest for 2 years & 4 mo. = \$33.36, which I agreed to do. The young man is studying in Lehigh University. He has just come of age and to money left him two years ago. It is a noble act in him. 5th letter, from nephew Thomas Adamson, Consul General at Panama, Central America. This is a most interesting letter. Indeed I know no one who writes a letter more instructive and interesting. His long experience in the Consular Service at numerous Stations, mingling with men of different nationalities and engaged as he has been so frequently in settling difficulties which often in other hands would have resulted in serious disturbances with other governments, gives him much knowledge that enables him to write interestingly. 6th letter (now since supper I have had another letter) from a doctor wanting me to use my influence to have him appointed "Pension Agent" in Phila. under the Cleveland Administration. He is not a very worthy man or well fitted for the place, but I will speak of him as I think may be justifiable.

December 10: Sunday.

Rose at 6:30. After breakfast engaged in writing again my autobiography, having utterly lost the one I had prepared for Dr. Stone's book of distinguished physicians of our County. At about 10 o'clock Dr. Charles S. Dolley, my nephew & his eight year old daughter came in upon me. I was glad to see Dr. Dolley, have not seen him since his difficulty with Prof. Pepper & the University Trustees. He showed me his history of our ancestors, extracted from my book and put into complete form, indexed, &c., in the most complete way, so complete that I got him to take my copy of Wharton Dickinson's history of the Dickinson's, which runs back in an unbroken line for twelve centuries, so that he may compare it with the parts of it gotten from me and see how they fit each other.

I am glad that I did not get any part of my "Corson Genealogy" and the Dickinson genealogy of my mother published, for now I can have it done better than I can or could do it. I sent home with him my history of the Corsons from the immigrant Cornelius who came to Staten Island in or about 1680, down through all the generations in Bucks & Montgomery Counties to the present day. I had each generation in separate bundles.

He showed me a book on the subject of "Finger Prints," a new thing to me, and was so desirous to have the prints of our family, that he took mine, Mary's, Emily Corson senior's, her son Henry's, &c., &c. On a tablet covered with Printer's Ink & with the ink smoothed by means of a roller for the purpose, we laid our fingers' ends, or rather the fingers flat on the inked surface for a few seconds, then pressed them on slips of white paper. Then the little ridges & circles on the fingers are imprinted on the white paper. The author of the book and others interested in this matter say that it has been discovered that these small ridges are transmitted in families and they are so characteristic of whole generations of them that the heredity is apparent to all who choose to observe them, and that these finger prints are now being utilized to detect imposters of different kinds. For instance in the armies of Germany & France when a man is enlisted, his finger prints are taken. Should he desert, and any one be arrested charged with being this deserter, his protestations that he is not that man go for nothing if, when tested by his finger prints, they show the stamp of the former one. So in many impostures, the finger prints are reliable. They do not change and no others are like them.

Dr. Dolley is a wonderfully bright man, has an immense amount of scientific knowledge. He had been here but half an hour or so, when daughter Susan Lukens, Ada, Joseph's wife and her mother walked in. Susan staid but a short time, but at 12 ½ o'clock, Mr. Edgar Carter, Ada's brother came in while we were at dinner. Mrs. Carter we had never seen before. She is a handsome woman of about 65 I shall say, but for months in poor health. Since the death of her husband Judge Carter of Wyoming Ty. a few years ago, much responsibility fell upon her and broke her health very much. I predict for her many years of health yet. We had a very pleasant visit from them until three P.M. when they left for the train to go to Phila. to stay at James Yocom's till tomorrow morning when they will leave for their home in Washington. All saw Edgar who boards in Phila. and attends lectures in the University of Pennsylvania to fit him for mechanical & scientific engineering. When they had all gone I felt very weak & exhausted.

December 19 and 20: Monday & Tuesday.

On those days we had rain & snow. Disagreeable weather, so that I was not much from home, save one trip to Norristown & one visit with Dr. Leedom to see a patient with him. But I wrote and received letters and did other reading & writing. On Tuesday evening I wrote to Phila. Co. Med. Soc. and two other County Societies who have not yet passed resolutions in favor of my reform (proposed) for the case of our insane poor. I shall go on and write to nearly all the Societies on the subject. Thermometer but a little below freezing until this Tuesday evening; now about 30°

December 21: Wednesday.

Thermometer 11° F. at sunrise. Ground covered with snow, two inches.

December 22: Thursday.

Therm. at 20° F. at sunrise. I went to Norristown at 9 A.M., did a number of things which did not need immediate attention, but served to have an excuse for getting out, as I was not in the carriage at all yesterday. A most unusual thing to be at home all

day. Got home at 12:30 & staid there the rest of the day. Have rec'd. an invitation to a reception in Phila. at the Art Club, from 8 to 11 the night of the last day of the year 1892.

December 25: Sunday.

Christmas. Therm. last night 16°, night before 10° at sunrise. About 2 inches of snow on the ground. At 10:30 A.M. Jaywood Lukens' carriage came for Mary & myself to go to their house to dinner. Susan had invited us several days ago. We had a very agreeable time and a plain good dinner of turkey and good vegetables. At 3 P.M. the carriage was at the door, by request, to bring us home.

It is pleasant to have so good a daughter and son-in-law. Indeed it is a great comfort that all my daughters and their husbands are kind as they can be, and all of them well off in a financial way, save Wm. L. Cresson & daughter Tacie. He had good opportunities to do well, but always failed, because of living beyond his means. I don't mean excessive expenses on the family, but in his business operations. But as he is kind to his wife & children, does not be intemperate and is well behaved and now realizes the need of work & economy, is making a comfortable living.

Joseph, now my only living son, is a most affectionate one and financially well off, getting almost \$4000 per year, house rent free & horses kept, and a beautiful place, the Barracks in Washington City.

December 26: Monday.

Therm. 10°, quiet, cold morning, but as the sharp cold wind of the past three days has ceased to blow and the sun is shining brightly, the men are here ready to take in ice. A neighbor who owes me large has sent his strong two horse team and two men. My own man, and another of my tenants and still another nearby who wants work, are all ready, and as the ice is 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches thick and clear as crystal, I bid them go to work. I am greatly interested in reading the novel of Count Stoltoi [sic], "Anna Karenina," as a relief from the Medical Journals and from my labors for our Insane Poor. I shall stay in the house today and read it. It has almost 700 pages but it is to me very interesting in the view it gives me of the habits of life in all classes in Russia, of which I have never known much.

9 P.M. We have had nine monstrous loads of ice put in today. It delights me. Indeed there are few persons who have so much need to be glad to have so much clear beautiful ice stored away. Every day I have need of it. Every day (nearly) I have palpitation of the heart, and more than once frequently, and whenever it occurs, if I take a tumblerful or sometimes only half full of ice-water 34° or 36° swallowing it rapidly, it is arrested instantly. Should I not be able to get the ice-water, it dashes on, beating at the rate of 135 times in a minute while its normal rate now in my 89th year is only 53. Tomorrow we hope to fill the ice-house.

I have read much of "Anna Karenina," poor deluded, sinful woman.

December 27: Tuesday.

Letter from Joseph and from Aunt Harriet and Dr. J. V. Hale, Wheatland, Texas; by mail also from Dr. Markley, Dr. Ward, Dr. Roberts, and Frannie Day.

Temp. 7° at sunrise. Ice 7 inches; filled our house to the very roof today. Cost me but \$2.25 in money. The man with the team owed me largely, one other man too, so I had to pay only one. Nephew Dr. Ellwood [here] to see us.

December 30: Friday.

On Wednesday & Thursday, which were very cold, Therm. 7° Fahrenheit at sunrise, and as I had a stiff neck, I did not go out much, scarcely at all. The neuralgia in my neck & shoulder was quite bad last night and this morning it is painful on the right side of the neck, so that if I attempt to turn my head, it seems as though my neck might break. At noon today it was quite distressing. Then I took four teaspoonsful of the red solution of Morpheum. By 3 P.M. I was greatly relieved. Dr. Highley also sent me a Liniment to bathe it with; that came at 3 ½ P.M., and I put some on. Since that time I have not used any med. internally or externally and am pretty comfortable, but I will take 1/8 gr. sol. Morph. (what I took before) and use the liniment externally before I go to bed. Have done a good deal of writing this afternoon, letters, &c.

December 31: Saturday.

All yesterday I was poorly with "stiff neck." There are few persons who have not had the stiff neck, an affection that prevents turning the head toward the affected side, without a pain. When it is attempted, that feels as though it would "break the neck." Such was my case on all Thursday night and Friday till one P.M. Then I took 1/8 gr. Sulph. Morph., so that when Dr. Highley's liniment came, I was greatly relieved, but I used it and at supper time took another 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. These measures greatly relieved me, and I spent a pretty comfortable night, and now at 8 A.M. am much better than yesterday.

9 P.M. Not a single particle has the snow melted for a whole week, just a steady cold from 7° F. to 22°.

10 P.M. At 3 P.M. Jimmy brought Aunt Harriet from Spring Mill. She left New Hope at 11:15 A.M. Bertie Yocom who has been here for a week nearly went with Jimmy (the boy) for her.

I am so much better today, can turn my head without fear of breaking my neck, that I can enjoy Harriet's visit. Have not been away today. Have had pleasant letters from friends.

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January 1: Sunday.

New-years-day. Sleety & rainy all day, melting the snow. Am nearly well of the wry-neck. Staid in all day. Bertie Yocom went home at 3 P.M. to be ready for school tomorrow. Have written to Joseph, to Dr. Murdoch,ⁱⁱⁱ to Miss Katharine Forwood. She wants me to aid herself & sister to erect very costly monument to their father, but as he and they were all content to let their wife & mother lie there without any memorial stone of any kind, I have written them that I will not aid to erect one to their father alone; the wife & mother must have one exactly like it.

January 2: Monday.

9 P.M. The continuous rain all yesterday together with a temperature above 40° F. swept away particles of snow from the fields and roads, and the morning is pleasant though foggy. At 10 A.M. Frannie Day came here, Jaywood Lukens' man bringing her.

I have done almost nothing in the way of reading and writing; been "sitting" about the house and sometimes laying on the lounge. Sent some Woman's Journals here and there to wives of medical friends.

January 3: Tuesday.

Last night's mail (8 P.M.) brot me a number of letters, so that it was 10 ½ before I got to bed. Did not then sleep so well as usual. Joseph sent \$1,800 for me to invest in a mortgage today. Had one spell [of] palp., but water took it off. Have not been troubled with it at night lately.

January 4: Wednesday.

Therm. 12° F. this morning. After breakfast, palp. Water efficient.

January 5: Thursday.

Went to Norristown. Left my three Washington Notes, in aggregate \$1,000, with First National Bank for Collection. Took a mortgage of John for \$600. He took 3 deposits of mine in Trust Co. as payment. I missed a mortgage for \$1,800 for Joseph. I was too late in accepting it.

January 6: Friday.

Therm. 23° at sunrise. I was surprised to see a deep and drifted snow when I rose at 6 A.M.

Evening, 9 o'clock. It has snowed and drifted nearly all day, and of course I staid in-doors pretty well.

January 7: Saturday.

Fine sleighing. Sleighs out every where. Had our three gotten out and fixed up for use. I mean cleaned carpet, &c. At 3:30 sent for daughter Bertha to Spring Mill. Sleighing is splendid.

See about Tacy's Bond.

January 8: Sunday.

Bertha Yocom Sr. & Harriet Foulke here. Therm. 16° [at] sunrise. Splendid sleighing. Jimmy now 10 o'clock has gone to bring Tacie & her daughter Carrie here to spend the day. I have been busy all morning arranging papers, &c., &c., accumulated through last week.

Therm. 20° now at 10 A.M. Seems mild out-doors. Carrie Cresson & her mother Tacie have come in the sleigh.

January 9: Monday.

Good sleighing. Therm. 6° at 5 ½ A.M. It seemed to be necessary to go to Norristown Trust Co. to get Mary's Certificate for \$300 for Mary to sign, so that I could

get five School Bonds which I had applied for and which I was to pay for today. I feared I had not enough money in Bank to pay it all, as I took a mortgage for \$600 a few days ago. So we went in the sleigh, James driving for us. We were well wrapped up. I found that I had money enough so did not use Mary's, but left it there as she was getting 3 per cent interest. I since dinner went to Conshohocken to meet Dr. Jane Garver. She was detained and did not get there on time, so before I got home at 2:20, I had palp.; reached home, took ice water & stopped it; lay down and in ten minutes was again attacked; repeated the water. Again it ceased; lay down again. In half hour it came again. Again the water was efficient. Then I took a small dose of Morph, 1/16 of a grain, and a teaspoonful Paragoric & went to bed. Had a nap of half an hour. Got up at 4:30 and rode to Marble Hall to get my bonds, snowing all the time. Reached home at 5:30 and found Dr. Jane Garver awaiting me. She took tea with me and recited the wrongs to which she was subjected by the Superintendent Dr. Orth, by interfering in her work, the medical care of the Insane. She relies on me. Many who are heart & soul with her even amongst the Trustees are afraid to stand up boldly against the usurpations of Dr. Orth, the Superintendent and his present friend the president of the Board. She gave me the names of three Trustees who favor her but are afraid to stand up boldly against the president and Dr. Orth. How many men need a leader. They are courageous under a leader, but cowards without one.

After a satisfactory interview, she left at seven o'clock for Conshohocken & then for the Hospital to see Dr. Bennett. The recital of her wrongs has stimulated me so that I feel good & strong and able and ready for active work for the passage of my "bill."

She gave me the address of, 1) her Cousin, Hon. Chauncey F. Black, who is ready to work for the bill, York, Pa.; 2) Dr. John Montgomery, Chambersburg, Pa.; 3) Hon. George F. Baer, Trustee, Reading, Pa.; 4) Mr. F. Asbury Aul, Harrisburg, Pa., Trustee; 5) Mr. Samuel Small, Trustee, York, Pa.; 6) Hon. Dr. Strickler, Waynesboro Representative, Waynesboro, Franklin Co., Pa.

I shall have enough to do now until the "bill" is disposed of, writing to friends all over the State, but nil desperandum is my motto and while life and strength hold out, I will work on to place women physicians in possession of the entire control of the female insane.

In the "press" today appears an article headed "Surgery for Insanity" in which the Trustees and Dr. Bennett are charged with experimenting on Insane females, to see whether the removal of certain diseased organs, very notably diseased ovaries would not cure insanity. It is a vile charge, and entirely due to the jealousy of Dr. Morton. He had been a surgeon and member of the Lunacy Board, and approved the operating on such diseased and suffering patients for their bodily comfort, just as women in high life as well as poor women not insane are operated on to relieve their sufferings, and for no other purpose. And if after such relief from suffering their insane condition proved to be ameliorated, as it would in all probability be, the value of it would be an added reason for its use whenever women (insane) were suffering from the existence of such disease.

January 10: Tuesday.

Two articles in reference to the brutal attack of yesterday have appeared in the Press today, which put a new light on the subject, and one which places Dr. Morton in an awkward position, if they do not prove him a falsifier. Both Dr. Bennett & Dr. E. M.

Corson have published in this morning's Press that he was consulted in relation to the operations for the relief of the ovarian disease and great sufferings of these poor insane women, and not as a means of cure of the mental disease, yet hoping that it too might be benefited by the relief given to the patient from her bodily suffering, and Dr. M. was pleased with the suggestion and approved the operation, but when his rival was selected to perform it, his anger was aroused and revenge sought. I can readily see that policy would have suggested to Dr. Bennett to select Dr. Morton, but she very properly chose the man whose success in that operation was unprecedented. We will await the outcome.

January 11: Wednesday.

Had palp. at 8 ½ P.M. yesterday (beside one two hours before) and last night at 2 P.M. Water efficient instantly in them all. More snow last night, three inches "they say."

Read this evening Dr. Henry S. Patterson's Memoir of Dr. Samuel George Morton, the Ethnologist and author of "Crania Americana" and the "Types of Mankind." I had personal acquaintance with Dr. Samuel George Morton, father of Dr. Thomas G. Morton, and really loved him. He first incited me to study mineralogy. I was the first to acquaint him with Dr. Backman's publishing a pamphlet denouncing him as a disbeliever in the Bible, which he circulated through the Lutheran Ministers to the people of the United States. Rev'd. Frederick Anspach gave me one and I acquainted Dr. Morton with it. After that he had no more correspondence with Backman.

Dr. Patterson's Memoir in the fore-part of the Type of Mankind is a grand tribute to the genius of Dr. Samuel George Morton and copies pages of that great work.

January 12: Thursday.

9 P.M. Still snowing. Wrote several letters today, a long one to Thomas Adamson, my nephew, Consul General of the United States at Panama, Central America. He used to tell me, several years since, how recklessly, extravagantly and expensively the Canal was being dug through from Panama to Colon [Colón] and predict it would never be accomplished by the company having it in hand, and now it has been abandoned and M. Charles de Lessups and a number of those concerned in it are before the Courts of France on trial for embezzling thousands, even millions of Francs – criminal trials.

I sincerely pity M. Lessups, the man who accomplished the feat of making a canal for ships through the Isthmus of Suez. He is a splendid old man and as I believe honest. He is now before the Court of investigation making a statement of his management. All France is under great excitement about it, and Monarchists and Bonapartists & other parties waiting for an opportunity to overthrow the Republic.

8 P.M. I write while Aunt Harriet talks by my side.

January 13: Friday.

Palp. at 3 A.M. Ice water stopped it. 3° F. at 7 A.M. Snow a foot deep on the level, roads greatly drifted. The road from here to Plymouth Meeting has not been open for travel for three days. Sent four letters to the P. O. at 9 A.M.

January 14: Saturday.

7 A.M.. Therm. 4° F. Our road not yet open. Went to bed last night at 10 o'clock after having arranged for publishing a second edition of my pamphlet, "On the Recognition of Women Physicians by the Profession," and reading Holmes' Emerson, or rather Life of Emerson. Slept well and feel pretty well this morning, but will not, I think, go out sleighing today, though I do want to go to Norristown on business.

January 15: Sunday.

Therm. at sunrise 3°, middle of day, 16°. Charles Foulke, Dr. Richard's son [is] here, a pretty fine fellow, in a Fire Insurance office [in] Phila., 20 years of age. Aunt H.'s gd.son. As it was too cold to go out, we wrote letters. Three palps. last night.

January 16: Monday.

Palp. twice in the night. Have taken no medicine for two days, to see how I can get along. Palps. more frequent, two last night. Therm. 6° below zero at 7 A.M. Letters sent this morning: One to Dr. Joseph, Washington; Dr. Traill Green, Easton, Pa.; Dr. Detweiler, Williamsport, Pa.; Dr. Jane K. Garver, Harrisburg, Pa.; Dr. Alexander Craig, Columbia, Pa.; Dr. T. B. Schneidman [sic], Phila., Pa..

Aunt Harriet sent [one to] Mrs. Murray, Trenton, N.J.; Edward Walton, Bloomsburgh, Pa.; Dr. Richard C. Foulke, New Hope, Pa.

By 9 o'clock A.M. mail I got a letter from Dr. Jane Garver, the assistant at Harrisburg, that the Trustees were preparing to bring in a "bill," and she wants it and ours to harmonize. I had just sent all the letters to the office, so I at once wrote to her again to meet her views.

Therm. 12° [at] 2 P.M. Palp. after supper.

January 17: Tuesday.

Therm. 4° below zero.

I was very weak and inclined to lie on the lounge last evening but did not do it. I had been for a couple of weeks, at first stop my cough and cure the cold, and again to check a looseness of my bowels, to take 1/24th of sulph. morph. and one tea-spoonful of Paregoric twice a day, morning & after supper, but as it appeared to prevent palpitations from being so frequent, I cont'd. it for two, perhaps three weeks, but at last I had palps. so frequently that I concluded to quit it, so have not taken any for the past nearly three days now. Yet I think it was the absence of it that made me feel so miserable yesterday & last evening.

But I did not take it, and though it was a long time before I got asleep, I rested pretty well, though up four times, and I feel pretty well this morning. If it were true that I was feeling the absence of this small anodyne dose, it shows the need to abandon it, if it be not really necessary. I had one palp. last evening but none all day and not once last night. I will persevere for a while.

January 18: Wednesday.

Had a palp. before supper yesterday. None through the night, but I feel weak and miserable, because I have to be up about every hour to urinate, one of the infirmities of old age.

Yesterday at 3 P.M. a palp., one again in the evening. So took 12th of a grain of morph. Soon I felt greatly changed, stronger and not restless. How Strange! What must be the condition of those younger people who are in the habit of taking a whole grain or two or three once, twice or, as some do it, three times a day. I have known two people who took one of them ii grains at one dose every day, another friend of mine 3 grs. 3 times a day, and how wretched they were when from under the influence, even for a short time. I am entirely confined to the house, because of the cold, so got restless. As soon as I get out as before the cold spell, I will not need even this small dose, unless diarrhoea sets in again.

Breakfast is over. I am feeling pretty well. Had palp. at 2 this morning. Was up seven times in the night. 9 ½ A.M. a palp. Ice-water arrested it instantly.

9 P.M. Five letters. Read in Holmes Life of Emerson. What a fine writer Dr. Holmes is! Wrote one letter in reply and one long article sent to Dr. Todd of Lexington, Kentucky, about the cruelty which he had reported to Dr. Bennett and myself in a Missouri Hospital.

Have taken 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. today and feel pretty strong and well.

January 19: Thursday.

I slept pretty well last night but had three attacks of palp. Two went off in a few minutes after getting out of bed, the other with ice.

9 P.M. I have been to Norristown to John's and to First National Bank, and after dinner to Consho. on business.

Charles Adamson, my nephew, came to see me after dinner. Could not stay long. I took him with me to Consho. The Therm was 24° at noon, sunlight bright and all in all a good day. Got home by 4 P.M.

January 20: Friday.

No palp until six P.M. when I was returning from a hasty trip in the sleigh to Norristown to have \$1,000 Note assigned to Joseph. I had been to Helen Hovenden's Studio to see the painting which he is making for the Exhibition at Chicago in May next. It is the return of the bride and groom from their wedding trip to the home of the groom's parents. My gd. daughter Bertha Day represents the bride. It is far from finished, but I predict for it enthusiastic reception.

I ate a pretty hearty dinner at Hovenden's and had heart-burn most of the afternoon & evening.

January 21: Saturday.

Retired at 9:30. At 10:30 got awake and cont'd. so until 11:20 when palp. attacked me; again at 1:30 A.M. and 2:30 and 6 A.M. today. Every time I drank rapidly a tumbler full of ice-water, and every time it was stopped instantly. But I dread taking so much ice water in so few hours. It was not cheering to rise with the heart dashing away at 133 beats per minute, go into a cold room, get the ice water and dash down a tumbler full, which produces an involuntary swallowing for 8 to 10 times after it is all in the stomach, and while this involuntary swallowing is going on, a flush passes over my forehead and on several occasions has so acted on my brain, that my knees gave way and it seemed as though I would sink to the floor, but I was enabled to prevent the fall. If the

rapid swallowing of the water fails to produce the involuntary efforts to swallow, I know that it has failed, the water not cold enough, or was drunk too slowly or there was not enough of it.

So last night was rather dreary. I feel that it would in many respects be better, if I had some-one near me, for it seems a hazard to life whenever I take the water fast enough & cold enough to stop the palpitation. It may be that my indigestion as manifested by the heart-burn was the cause of its being so often repeated.

At 9:30 A.M. I was ready to leave for Phila. to see Senator Markley, who has my "bill" before the Legislature and wished me to meet him in his Drexel Building office in Phila. for consultation. Directly the boy, "Jimmy," brot the mail, a letter from Dr. Markley, said he would meet me at Mr. Bickel's office in Norristown, as it did not suit him to go to Phila. I hastened up there [and] saw him at noon. Did some other business & was home before two P.M. Our prospects of success are good. At 6 P.M. had palp.

January 22: Sunday.

I took but little except milk for supper last evening at 6 o'clock and a bowl of hot milk at bed-time. Slept pretty well, indeed quite well and no palp. Frannie Yocom came last evening.

Ten o'clock A.M. Have been reading Grace Greenwood's "Haps and Mishaps. a tour in England, Ireland and Scotland." What a wonderful writer she was.

8 P.M. I have written letters to Dr. Detweiler of Williamsport, B. F. Comly, Rep. from this County, and Hon. Chauncey F. Black of York, Pa. this afternoon, and have read many pages of Grace Greenwood's book. Have felt well all day and have not had a palpitation. But I became very weary and at 5 P.M. lay down on the lounge until supper at 6 o'clock.

January 23: Monday.

Went to bed at 8 last night. At 10 awakened, then was wakeful until one this morning. At 2 awakened with palp. Water was not quite cold enough to take it off with one glassful. At 4 o'clock had it again and as the water failed me, I went to bed & staid until about 5:40 when I again awoke with it. The water took it off, and I went to bed again, but in ten minutes it returned. Then I dressed & came down stairs, tried the water; it failed. Then I lay down on the lounge and at 7 ½ it went off. So I had almost no sleep last night, but now, after breakfast, 8:20 o'clock, I am feeling pretty well. A strange affection and strange cure. The water was not on any of my trials last night quite cold enough.

Ten o'clock. Just as I was reading letters from Joseph & others, which came in the mail at 9:30, I was struck by the palp. and the water has failed me again. I fear it will not be efficient hereafter. I am sitting up to write this though the heart is battering away at a 133 per minute. Normal pulse when I am quiet exactly 52 beats per minute. It looks to me now that I am likely to have palpitation almost continuously night & day.

12:30 The 4th trial with ice water has stopped it. Took dinner after that, then read the Woman's Journal, not because I wanted to but feared if I lay down that it would come again. At 1:30 P.M. it came again. Took ice-water with instant relief. When it went off, took 25 drops Tct. Digitalis.

8 ½ P.M. Palp. struck me again, when I was reading the evening Paper of Norristown. Got the ice-water and at once was well. Palp. at 5:30. I forgot this. It should have been before the eight thirty. The 8 ½ palp. makes the eighth attack since I went to bed last night. With all these attacks I am comfortable as soon as they are stopped, and able to go about my business whatever it may be.

January 24: Tuesday.

Slept well last night. No palpitation, but this morning at 7 ½ o'clock, immediately after breakfast it came. The ice water gave it the "le coup de grace."

Yesterday afternoon I took in two doses 45 drops Tct. Digitalis, this morning 20 drops on an empty stomach.

[Was] in Norristown this afternoon to do many things: Was at Ellwood's, John's, the First National Bank to deposit, the Trust Company in Montgomery Bank to put papers in my box, at Tacie's, Stahler's & then home; was in the sleigh, Jimmy driving.

Took 20 drops Tct. Digitalis at noon, ten just now before I leave for bed. Five letters this evening, three of them needing answers.

Dr. Stahley, Prof. in Pa. College at Gettysburgh offers to aid me in getting my bill passed. He was an assistant physician at Harrisburgh Hospital for 12 years, seven of which I was there as Trustee and of course knows of the mismanagement and therefore can do much good work for me. Letter from Dr. Markley & others. Wrote replies till nearly 10 o'clock.

January 25: Wednesday.

James took me to Ambler this morning to collect interest. Home at 12:30. James took me to Chestnut Hill this P.M. to collect interest from Mrs. Langan, Corson St. Years ago I bought 4 ½ acres of land at Mermaid Station, last out Corson St.. Sold it all for 5,700 dollars.

Am pretty tired. Three letters at 7 P.M. Wrote letters since the mail came. Since 7 ½ A.M. on Tuesday, I have not had palpitation. I have ridden 24 miles in the sleigh today, yesterday 8 miles. Hope I will not be hurt by it. Mary was with me yesterday.

January 26: Thursday.

No palp. last night. Slept well. After breakfast had a palp. at Helen's. Water did its work. That was 9 A.M. That over, James took me in the sleigh to Consho. to collect rents, &c., &c. Called to see daughter Susan Lukens.

Read for an hour after dinner, then went to Charles Stout. Sleighing very good on the back-road. He paid me his medical Bill. I hear some one say, "I thought you had quit practice." True, but Hannah Stout, Charles' sister was once insane and Dr. Bennett of the Norristown Asylum or Hospital wishes me to see her when she is not well, to bleed her and attend to her. She seems very well now. Has needed but little attention for a year or more. Home before night. Rec'd. letters about my "Bill" before the Legislature and other matters and was replying until bed-time. Have taken 20 drops Tct. Digitalis three times today. No palp. since morning. Took two tea-spoonsful of weak solution of morph, 1/12 gr., and tea spoonful of paregoric at supper-time.

January 27: Friday.

Slept well. No palp. Think the Digitalis & weak anodyne may be preventing it. Will try them sometime longer. Weather has greatly moderated, 34° at sunrise, now 9 A.M., 40°.

Letters last evening & today: Senator Markley; Hon. Mahlon H. Dickinson, Pres't. B. P. Charities; Dr. Detweiler; Dr. Stahley, Prof. in Penn. College, Gettysburg, Pa.

January 28: Saturday.

Slept well last night. After writing replies to letters and getting those by mail at 9 A.M., I went to Norristown to receive \$600 and some interest on a Mortgage that I held and to enter satisfaction. Deposited in Bank \$611.80 and \$62.00, then brot daughter Tacie down to be at a small-sized Reception for Aunt Harriet's birth-day tomorrow. Frannie, Tacie, Susan, Helen Hovenden, Anna Garretson & her sister Mary Livezey came. Had a pleasant time from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M.

I had palp. at Norristown for ½ hour as I could not earlier get ice-water. Had a good deal of business today trying to make friends for the cause of women School Directors.

January 29: Sunday.

This is Aunt Harriet's birth-day, 74 years old. Yesterday as I have already written we had a few relatives to be with us in honor of her birth day.

There came to me last evening a letter from my dear old friend, Mary Grew with a photograph likeness of her. People out-side of the City at a meeting held at Chester two weeks ago elected Mrs. Blankenberg president in Miss Grew's place that she had occupied in the State Woman's Suffrage Association. Immediately her friends in Phila. got up a Phila. Society with her as president. I was specially invited to a meeting of it a few days ago by the Secretary Miss Rachel Child. I wrote a letter to her, which she read before the Society last week, and Mary Grew's letter to me resulted from that. As it shows what a kind old lady she is, and how kindly she is disposed towards those who work in the cause dear to her for many years, I record it here.

Letter of Miss Mary Grew, President, Women's Suffrage Association of Philadelphia:

2044 Mt. Vernon St., Phila. Jan. 28/93

My Dear Friend. I thank you heartily for the letter of sympathy with our New "Suffrage Society, and your offer of pecuniary aid, which you sent to our Secretary Miss Rachel Child. She read the letter to the audience assembled at our recent meeting. They were much interested in it, as well they might be. Your vigor and active interest in all philanthropic enterprises is delightful for younger persons to witness. It should be, and it is inspiring to young and old. I regret that you cannot be a member, formally, of the Phila. County Society, but you are personally such, and I hope that you may sometime attend one of our Monthly Meetings, when you happen to be in the City. We have commenced work with a large number of zealous and energetic members and I hope for good work from them. There is almost entire unanimity of feeling among them. Of the dissatisfied persons

who were so active in our Meeting of the State Society at Chester, nearly all reside outside Philadelphia County and cannot be members of the County Society. Those who live in Phila. and have joined us, are so very few that they cannot disturb the general harmony. Our young Secretary Miss Child is a grand daughter of John Child, our old anti-slavery co-adjustor. She has taken hold of her work with great interest.

You kindly gave to me a photograph of my dear Margaret and myself in our younger days. I have some of myself, taken recently by a friend of mine who wished to do it, and I send you one, as perhaps you may like to have it. I believe that a copy of "Mrs. Turner's memorial Tribute" to Margaret was sent to you. We tried to have them sent to all her friends. They generally consider it beautiful and just.

Hoping that I may some day have the pleasure of seeing you here,
I am as ever

Cordially, your friend,

Mary Grew.

Letter from the Secretary of the Montgomery Co. Medical Society:

Norristown, Pa.
Jan. 26th 1893

Dr. Hiram Corson

My Dear Doctor

It gives me great pleasure to be the medium of Expressing to you the kindly sentiments of the Montgomery County Medical Society as expressed at the 6th annual Banquet held last evening. I was directed to express to you the sincere regret of the Society at your absence in the flesh, believing you were present in the spirit with the Society you founded and did so much for to make it the Society of the Societies in the State of Pennsylvania.

The Society wishes for you good health and strength and a continuance of the many blessings it has been your lot to receive, as much through your earnest advocacy of the Right, and fight for Justice, as the proper dues of an honorable life and a busy existence.

May God grant you continuance among us, to cheer us and to show us what can be done to bring an honorable and happy old age, in the example you set before us, of a proper life well lived to His glory.

I again desire to express the pleasure I have in being the medium of extending to you the Society's Congratulations, and to add my own sincere respects

Yours very truly

Harry H. Whitcomb

Sec'y. Montg'y. Co. Med. Society

My Reply to Sec. Whitcomb's Letter:

Maple Hill, Jan. 28/93
H. H. Whitcomb, M.D., Secretary, Montgomery Co. Med. Soc.

Dear Doctor. I have rec'd. your letter, by which you inform me of the kind, generous action of the County Medical Society in reference to me and to the efforts I have made to found and prosper the Society which now ranks as you express it as the Society of Societies in this our great State. The last time I was present at a meeting of the Society I was much gratified to see so many physicians in attendance, and apparently so greatly interested in promoting the honor and usefulness of the profession, and my mind reverted to the years when a very few of us resolved that we would not be absent from a single meeting, and one other and myself made it a duty to come prepared with something to interest and instruct the few members present and thus prevent a decline in membership.

You have truly spoken of it as the Society for I have by frequent inquiries, of members of other societies, learned that in general attendance at every meeting, they fall behind us in that as well as in earnest efforts to make them useful.

Please extend to the Society my grateful appreciation of their kind feelings so earnestly and felicitously conveyed to me by your graceful pen.

With Kindest regards
as ever your friend

Hiram Corson.

What an interesting collection of letters I would now have, if I had copies of all such I had received and my replies. I have been wonderfully favored by kind letters from individuals and Societies, and now I am almost daily in receipt of the kindest, most grateful ones, for what I have done and written in various lines of reform, and what I am now doing to have female insane patients exclusively under the care of female physicians.

At this time I have a "bill" before the Senate to establish that reform.

2 P.M. I have written much today. Have had one palp., but it went off before I could get the ice-water, only a few minutes,

9 P.M. Have written three long letters this P.M., one to Joseph, one to Miss Forwood, one to Dr. Musser in reply to his, who as Secretary of Centre County Medical Society informs me that the Society has approved the Reforms which I desire in Hospitals for the care of the Insane.

Aaronsburg, Centre C. Pa. Jan. 26/93

Dear Doctor

The Centre Co. Med. Soc. acted favorably on the Resolution submitted by you to memorialize the Legislature to secure Laws for Reform in the case of the insane.

Very truly
C. S. Musser, Secretary.

I replied with thanks.

January 30: Monday.

"Aunt Harriet" left us this morning. I took her to Spring Mill, then went to Conshohocken on business; then to Channing Potts to know which delegates their portion of Our School District elected to the conference with the other two districts to appoint candidates.

A new plan has been formed to get candidates. We used to have a general primary meeting for the whole township and selected the persons who were to be candidates of the party. Now at the primary meeting five persons are elected in each of the three sections, and the next week, the 15 selected select our candidates.

I am anxious to have two women, and the cause is being favorably looked on by many, and they will soon be found in the Board of School Directors. I then called at Wm. Livezey's on the same errand. He is a delegate.

When I reached home, found John Darrah who had long waited for me. He wanted [me] to write a letter to Dr. Chase, recommending his son Robert as a proper person as "attendant" in the Hospital for the Insane. I would not do it without Robert come to ask for it. He reminded me that I had got him in once before and plead in several cunning ways for me to do it. I would not.

Soon after dinner Robt. appeared, & after a pretty thorough interview, I wrote for him. I wont recommend any one who smokes, or drinks liquor without putting that in my letter. Robt. was not quite clear of it when I wrote for him eight years ago. He did not like it then, but promised faithfully to Dr. Chase that he would abstain, & he did well.

It is not needful to have a letter from me save that if they go without one and say that they are known by me. Dr. Chase likes to have me to fall back on as being somewhat responsible if they should do badly, pretty cute in Dr. C.

An attack of palp. Water disposed of it quickly.

January 31: Tuesday.

9 P.M. No palp. last night. Take about 50 drops Digitalis Tincture a day and three teaspoonsful of a solution of morph. sulph. only 1 gr to the four ounces of water. So one teaspoonful is only 1/32 of a grain, if the teaspoon is not very full, and only 1/24th of a grain if it is full as it can be.

Have not been out in the carriage save once to the post office. Have written in reply to letters. A few days ago, I wrote a letter to sister-in-law Hannah Bacon. When I got to bed I did not like it and resolved to not send it. In the morning could not find it. Today it was returned to me by Prof. Stahley of Gettysburg Pa. College, in with whose letter I had enclosed it and sent it to him. I was delighted to get it and at once burned it. I had that evening written many letters to friends who are aiding me in my reforms and therefore could not tell which one had it, so waited and all came out well.

Death of James G. Blaine. "Blaine is Dead." From all I meet, such is the salutation. He died a few days ago, after an illness of several weeks. He died Friday, January 27, 1893, and was buried Jan. 30th. I have put an issue of the Philad. Press in the large black portfolio, which contains an account of his birth, life and death. A singular fact is that during all his illness the physicians never spoke of any special disease ailing him.

I have contended from the first announcement of his illness, soon after he resigned from the office of State Secretary, and which was followed two or three days afterward by his failure to be nominated for the Presidency of the United States, that his illness was that depression of the vital forces following heavy disappointment and mortification. No man was more grievously disappointed and humbled in spirit.

When politicians began to look about for candidates there was quite a large part of Republicans bent on having him as their Candidate. Eminent men of the party waited on him and urged him to say that he was a candidate. Time after time this was done but he declined a positive answer, either that he would or would not be a candidate. The friends of Harrison, who had given his consent to stand for a re-election were active. When at last the delegates from all the States met at Minneapolis to select a candidate and had arrived at that stage in the proceedings when nominations were to be made, a letter from James G. Blaine was published in all the great political papers that Mr. Blaine had resigned his office of "Secretary of State." At once it was announced at Minneapolis, and it was considered tantamount to an announcement that James G. Blaine was a candidate, and it was believed by his friends that it would be received with tumultuous applause, but the applause did not come up to their sanguine expectations, but he was put forth as a candidate. He failed. Harrison was elected to be the Republican candidate. In a few days, Emmens Blaine, the son, died suddenly, some suspected suicide. He had exerted himself fearfully to aid his father and secure his nomination.

Let us look now at Mr. Blaine's condition. He managed the Foreign Affairs wonderfully well, had established "Reciprocity Treaties" with nearly all the South American States and settled acceptably the "Chilean Imbroglio," indeed had been at fault nowhere, was popular but so was President Harrison. In the trip that he made throughout the States, he had shown an ability in his numerous speeches that raised him greatly in the estimation of the people. Now Mr. Blaine had lost the nomination and was no longer Secretary of State. He had been reported in robust health too. To use a common phrase applied to persons who had failed in their ambitions, "he was nowhere." He retired to his home in Maine mortified, disgusted by his defeat. The President had quickly accepted his resignation and now another was in the chair he had so well filled and was prominent before the people of the Country while Mr. Blaine, a defeated man, was relegated to obscure retirement. I then predicted that his name would be scarcely heard of except when sickness and death were announced. So it proved. The scheme to defeat Harrison was regarded unfavorably.

February 1: Wednesday.

9 P.M. No palp. last night. Rainy, foggy. Staid in the house all day, save a visit by req. to Mrs. Jos. Coulston for advice & med. I don't like to do it but she is so pressing for me. She fears she is getting Bright's Disease. Her brother & sister and niece and nephew all were carried off by it. Busied myself with reading and writing. Senator Markley wrote me, entreating me to see him at his office in the Drexel Building on Saturday next at 11 A.M. One of our Representatives he says has by very undesirable action jeopardized our success with our "bill."

Just finished a letter to Dr. Eugene Corson. Now for bed.

February 2: Thursday.

Slept well last night. Therm. about 34°. After breakfast I cleared up my desk inside and outside of the accumulations of the past few days, and as there were a few papers, useless ones that I did not need, concluded to take them to the office. When I started it occurred to me that I should put my gum-shoes over my slippers. But as it was a little trouble, started without them. I was down the brick path which has quite a perceptible descent, when quick as lightning my feet flew from under me and I came down on the outer corner of the orbit of the right eye and on my right hip bone, to be exact, on the trochanter major of the thigh bone. The blow on the right side of the head was so violent and pained me so greatly that the hip was scarcely felt, and after lying a brief time I was enabled to get into the house. There was bleeding from a wound which was no doubt caused by the heel of my spectacle limb, on the orbital bone, but it was a very small wound and I covered it with small piece of court plaster^{iv} of the new kind. Now at 3 P.M. I have and for the last hour have had a sharp neuralgic pain in my left side between 5th & 6th or 7th ribs, a place in which I have often had pain in the last fifty years. It is a neuralgic pain & when present my side feels as if the parieties of the thorax were not thicker than a sheet of paper. But I do not complain. My escape from serious fatal injury is so gratifying that I will try to bear my apparently slight injuries uncomplainingly, as I should.

Have rec'd. four letters. One from Dr. Markley, who has my bill in charge, states the Mr. Goentner has made a false step; and one from Goentner that he had put forward the same "bill" in the House and that it had been negated in Committee, a slip that will defeat Dr. Markley's bill too we fear; one from Joseph, an interesting one as all his letters are, and one from Dr. Jane K. Garver.

February 3: Friday.

My friend Jacob Roberts, brother of Isaac Roberts of Spring Mill, died Jan. 12th/92 [93] and I was invited to the funeral but failed to go because of the fearfully cold weather then prevailing. He was a good man, a school-mate of mine 75 years ago.

My bruised orbit was so painful at midnight that I had to take a small dose of morph., after which I rested somewhat. All the evening I had a sharp pain in my side, so had mustard plaster on it and went to bed. Rested pretty well after two A.M.

The great body of snow, as the temp. is night and day above freezing, is slowly melting and there is a heavy fog all day and all night. So it has been for several days and is now. Kept pretty close to the house today. No palp.

February 4: Saturday.

Colder; last evening Therm. was 38° F., now at sunrise is only 18°. It seems cold for me to go to Phila. after so many warm days and I much in the house, but I must try to go to see Senator Markley and advise with him about my bill before the Senate.

10 P.M. I took little Jimmy with me and we were at the Drexel to see Senator Markley at 11 A.M. For 3 ½ hours I was engaged listening to his written speech to be delivered in the Senate when our bill shall come up for "Third reading." One of our ignorant but ambitious Representatives despite the instructions I gave him to go to Senator Markley as soon as they should get to Harrisburg & get from him his plan of operation for getting our bill through, did not go near the Senator, but when the Senator's

Bill was ready for third and final reading, slipped in a copy of the bill before the House, a most unwarranted proceeding; and as he knew nothing about the management of the insane in our hospitals, nothing about the reasons for our wishing a change, the Committee that had several most determined opponents in it, quickly returned the bill with a negative recommendation, and now, in all human probability nothing can be hoped for in the House, even though the Senate act favorably on Senator Markley's Bill. It is lamentable.

Well, we got through at last and after a stew of oysters had been taken by each of us, we made for home and reached it at 5 P.M. not any "worse for the wear and tear."

February 5: Sunday.

Engaged all day in answering letters and writing to persons here and there.

February 6: Monday.

Slept wonderfully well last night. Went to bed at 9:30, awoke at 12:20 this morning; then slept until 4 A.M., then till seven almost. The medicine, one teaspoonful of morph. solution 1/24 of a grain & one teaspoonful of Paregoric and 15 drops of Tct. Digitalis twice a day, must do good as I scarcely have attacks of palp. at all, and if it does come, will often leave in a few minutes without using ice-water.

Noon. Have been to Norristown to the Bank to deposit check gotten from Sixty sixes of 84 dols. for ½ year's interest, and to see John J. Corson about investments for Joseph. Dull, rainy morning. Had James with me to drive. Tacie is on the 5th ward school ticket as a candidate. The first woman candidate yet nominated by a primary meeting.

February 7: Tuesday.

8 P.M. No freezing last night; snow banks disappearing. Slept well. No palp. Engaged in arranging my papers. Took 1300 dollars of School Bonds of the School Directors. Gave for them 1,313 dols. They are at 5 per cent and run for 10 years. After dinner James took me to Norristown where I took Mortgage and Judgment from John J. Corson, given by [empty space] for 1,000 dollars at 5 per cent for son Joseph K. Corson, M.D. now residing at Washington.

I saw by the "Press" this noon that Senator Markley's Bill was strongly opposed and that after he consented to an amendment, it was put on its passage. It is a disappointment to me but if he can carry it even that way, we shall have swept the control from the Superintendents and have given it to the Trustees, and they can then make their own rules for the physicians to observe as there will then be no Superintendents.

Rec'd. a letter from Hon. Chauncey Black today and in accord with his wish forwarded to him a copy of our bill. I at once wrote to Dr. Markley to take his own course, try to get the bill through the House even in this unsatisfactory way. This came about, I doubt not, through the efforts of Dr. Detweiler who wishes to have the Superintendents swept off, but that the Chief male physician should have a general supervision over all the patients, male and female.

I will write to Dr. Jane Garver, assistant physician at Harrisburg, who will be distressed by this amendment; that undesirable as it is, should the bill as amended pass, we can at next session strike that amendment without any difficulty; and not only so, the

Trustees having all the power and the male physician holding his place only by their will, will be subservient enough as the Trustees will appoint most likely [as] they do at Norristown annually.

February 8: Wednesday.

Slept well. No palp. Strange this is, unless it is the effect of the anodyne and Digitalis, and the anodyne is only 1/12 of a grain in 24 hours.

Went to Norristown after dinner. Took a mortgage for \$1,000 for Joseph from John J. Corson. Paid a brief visit to David Foulke and wife and another to Misses Martha and Anna Yerkes, old ladies, who have been friends of ours for good seventy years. [They] live alone but have plenty of money. And what a good thing plenty of money is to such quiet, kind, good, old women.

February 9: Thursday.

No palp. last night or yesterday. Frannie came with me from Spring Mill at 10:39 yesterday, after a risk to her life which only by good management on the part of the Coachman [was avoided]. They were descending the hill from Germantown to Falls Station when the horse fell, instantly was up again, but with a broken shaft which at every jump struck in his side. So they were dashing down the hill just above the first street near to the station. She knew something bad had happened by the frightened voice of the driver, but she shut up in the close[d] cab could not see the dashing, furious horse. The driver seeing the danger of dashing down the steep square to the station, turned his horse into a cross street and at the next square turned him up the steep hill, he springy as if graded at every step. Three men dashed from the pavement and seized the horse. Frannie and the driver were soon out, when it was found that the broken shaft had been at every jump of the horse been gouging into his side. Frannie's mind concentrated on the thought shall I be killed out right at once, or will I be mangled? Escape did not seem possible.

More about our bill. Dr. Garver as well as myself and many others are annoyed about the obstructions to the passage of it. Today I have rec'd. from Dr. Markley, our Senator, information that he has had the bill reported to the Senate from the Committee with a favorable recommendation, without the amendment. Now the test will come there.

A letter from Dr. Garver to me says that she has just rec'd. a letter from her Cousin Hon. Chauncey F. Black (son of the great Democratic judiciary Black of Pa. Supreme Court (now dead), written after the amendment had been accepted, saying, "tell Dr. Corson not to be disheartened. Dr. Markley is an able man and will bring it out right" and promising help to his utmost ability.

Letters and marked papers showing that the bill had been amended came to me, the senders fearing that I had not seen what had been done.

Palp. before bed-time. Ice-water stopped it. The neglect to take med. yesterday probably gave chance for the palp. again. So I took some before going to bed.

February 10: Friday.

Slept well. No palp. Stormy, rainy, but wind from South. Went after breakfast to daughter Susan's and was home to dinner. At 2 P.M. Dr. Highley came here and

asked me to go with him to George Corson's to meet Mr. Shepp & John J. Corson and our Supervisors to get consent from the latter persons to allow them to put up a line of passenger Cars on the "Trolley" plan. Afterward went with Dr. Highley to Conshohocken to see the West Conshohocken to get the Burgess & to allow them to do the same thing.

I was unusually bright and well today. I took only 1/24 gr. of morph. and one teaspoonful of paregoric and 12 drops Tinct. Digitalis after breakfast and one dose like it after dinner. Yesterday I only took one dose all day and that I thought might have been the reason why I had an attack of palp., I mean that the absence of the three doses which I had been taken.

When this evening at six o'clock I sat to take supper, I remarked to Mary and our woman who was bringing it to the table, "I really feel to have a good appetite this evening;" then began to eat. I had eaten but least for about three minutes when I began to feel giddy, and I could not see distinctly. It, the giddiness, increased rapidly. My head began to sink towards the table. I said to Mary call "Tildy," the woman. Quickly she was there, just in time as it seemed to me to catch me and the table which, with all its contents were rising until they stood at an angle of 45° and ready to go down into the depths below, only that Tildy and Mary had hold of me and I hold of the table and was pulling back or resisting the tendency to pitch down the steep incline. Soon I felt the vertigo going off and that they were holding me. I afterward could not realize that the table had not reared on its legs of one side and that I had been all the time sitting in the chair, but with my head bent down towards the table and close to it. When I found myself being freed from the vertigo, I said I will have palsy and at once took hold of my wrist to feel the pulse, but could not do that well; then raised one arm then the other, then the legs. Directly I said I will lie on the lounge. They helped me to it and in a few minutes I was feeling as well as before the attack, [had] even a hankering for some more supper. After a few minutes I sat at the table and with apparent appetite took a little food, but again I felt that I was not wanting any. Then I lay on the lounge again and in a few minutes felt sick and must vomit, but it did not quite reach the vomiting stage, and in a few minutes passed off and again I seemed quite comfortable.

After seven o'clock some letters and papers came and one from Dr. Garver greatly pleased that Dr. Markley had passed my bill through the Senate in its original shape. This I concluded to answer. Markley himself had informed me of it by morning's mail. So I wrote her quite a clever-sized letter, and really felt about as well as if I had not had the spell of vertigo. At nine P.M. I went to bed.

February 11: Saturday

I had a dream at about eleven o'clock. It seems that it must have been a dream, but it was to me as much of a reality then as any reality ever was. It seems that I was awakened by Tilda who was standing by my bed-side with a lighted candle in her hand, and she said to me when I had opened my eyes, "there is a man out-doors calling for you." "Go see what he wants," I said. She went out and I waited for what seemed to me plenty of time for her return. Then I took a cane that Mary had laid near to me so that I might knock for her, if I should need any thing and pounded on the floor. No one came. After a while I knocked louder and waited. Finally got up and started out of my room. Then I saw Tildy and Mary Cunningham coming to my room. "Well why did

you not come back?" I said to Tildy. "Why did you not come and tell me who he was?" She said, "what do you want when you knocked?" I then told her of her coming into my room & telling me about the man, all of which she said must have been a dream. Then I went back to bed and slept pretty well, of course having to get up two or three times to see the time of night, &c., &c.

It is now 4 ½ P.M. I have had not a particle of appetite today and I have had a slight feeling of nausea, but otherwise [felt] pretty well save a feeling of weakness. Have had a good [nap] before noon and since about an hour and a half on the lounge. At 3 ½ P.M. I took a bath, slightly warm one, and had Jimmy to wash my back well where I could not reach it. So having then donned clean clothes from head to feet, I am now here feeling pretty comfortable., only "so weak." I am all the time reminded of Uncle William, as all the children so often speak of him, my brother Dr. William two years my junior, who studied with me and practiced in Norristown during 50 years. He found several months before his death, though in daily practice and with apparently no disease, had a sense of much weakness and was really so. A month before his death, when on a visit to me he left for home, he said as he and I walked to the carriage, "I don't know what ails me, I feel so weak in my legs, I can scarcely get up stairs." I really did not regard it as anything more than a temporary thing and made no remark. But from that time he declined in strength and soon the man was needed to help him up stairs. His nephew Dr. Ellwood M. Corson, brother George's son, was doing most of the practice then. Two days before "Uncle" brother William's death, Ellwood went to the funeral of his Uncle, Dr. George Maulsby, Surgeon U. S. Navy, at Washington, and on that day Wm. attended to all the patients who came and did not go to bed until 10 P.M. Next day he did not get up, dozed much, but was able to talk quite well. Did not though care to talk. That night [he] rested quietly and was conscious. In the next morning I saw him pretty early but he was not able to talk, nor even much aroused. How strange! Seemed just worn out. And this makes me feel that I am weakening down in the same way and nearer the end than my ability to work and ride around indicate. Well let it be so. Old Time, that giver of life to millions and whom he afterwards deprives of it has been at me for 88 years wearing me down as best he could, and though for nearly all that time he has seemed to gain but little advantage over me, he is [has] now brought me to a state of non-resistance almost. Well, let it be so. If he shall deal as kindly with me as he did with brother William, I will be content.

Evening, 8 o'clock. Dr. Ellwood, who came to see Mrs. Helen Hovenden, my niece & his sister who is not well, came in to see me at 5 ½ P.M. and staid a brief time.

As some Seidlitz powder which I took this morning operated pretty well, I took before supper 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. an hour ago, have had a bowl of hot-milk for supper and now feel pretty well, only "so weak."

Evening mail just in. Letters from several friends, one from Joseph.

February 12: Sunday.

Slept pretty well last night, but [have] a feeling of much weakness when awake. It is now nine o'clock and I have been busy ever since breakfast, arranging in their proper places all the letters, pamphlets and papers which came last week, so that when I settle down to read and write I will have a clean, cleared up desk and can know where to lay my hand on whatever I need.

Noonday. I read of the Friends Intelligencer's papers until Jay and Susan came after 10 o'clock. They staid till 12. In the Intelligencer on page 85 of second month eleventh, I find so good an account of the beliefs of The Sadducees and the Pharisees that I will quote them here.

"The Pharisees were a sect or party of the Jews, which was specially exact in its interpretation and observance of the law, both canonical and traditional. In doctrine they held to the resurrection of the body, the existence of angels and spirits, the providence of God and the authority of ecclesiastical traditions. Politically they were intensely Jewish; morally they were scrupulous in the observance of the ritual and written regulations of the law both written and oral. The term Pharisees is frequently applied to any one who is a scrupulous observer of the outward forms of religion, without regard to its inward spirit, one who places the letter above the spirit."

"The Sadducees were the members of a skeptical school of the Jewish religion in the time of John the Baptist and of Jesus. They denied the immortality of the soul, the existence of angels and the authority of the historical and poetical books of the Old Testament, and of the oral traditions on which the Pharisaic doctrines [are] largely founded. Their doctrines were those of the rich, the worldly and the compliant. The doctrine of the Sadducees is this, that the souls die with the bodies; nor do they regard the observance of any thing besides what the law enjoins them."

Friends Intelligencer, Feb. 11th, page 85 – Josephus.

At 4 P.M. Mr. Hovenden came in bringing with him grand daughter Bertha Day who is posing for the large painting which Mr. H. wishes to have at Chicago during the Exhibition. She will stay with us tonight.

I was engaged in writing letters then to influential men to continue their efforts to influence the Legislature to pass our bill. But writing since my attack of vertigo seems to increase my weariness so greatly that I have to rest every half hour or less.

February 13: Monday.

Slept very well last night. No palp. How queer this seems. Do these minute doses of medicine do it? Weeks ago I could not lie awake in the night for a single half hour generally without an attack.

Took before breakfast 1/24th grain sulph. morph., one teaspoonful Paregoric and 10 drops of Tct. Digitalis. I feel weak and a desire to be on the lounge. Think I will not do it, but will revise my "Brief History of the efforts put forth to procure the Recognition of Women Physicians by the Profession and to obtain a law to authorize Trustees of Hospitals for the Insane to appoint women physicians to have medical care of the Female Insane," to which I hope to add that I succeeded in procuring the enactment of a law that to the Trustees of all the hospitals for the insane in Pennsylvania shall be given the entire control of these institutions, as is now the case at Norristown. This will fling the Superintendents high and dry and divest them of their despotic power.

8 P.M. I have been at Norristown on business; home by noon. Since dinner have written two long letters today, no replies, and by request of friends in Reading & Harrisburg to influence certain Representatives. At 5 ½ P.M. a Reporter for the "Phila. Press" came to see me in relation to my "bill" before the House and many things concerning the Hospitals and their management. I talked freely to him. What he will make out of it I can't say, but he will make it as sensational as he can no doubt. Bertha

Yocum [sic] was here to spend the day, but I could not be much with her. Bertha Day, after posing for Mr. Hovenden, came here at 5 P.M. to stay with us all night.

Dr. Markley's speech in the Senate.

Since supper I have rec'd. the "Legislative Record" from Harrisburg sent by Dr. Markley, containing his speech and the proceedings attendant on the passage of his bill, or rather mine. He asked me two weeks ago to meet him in Philad. and read it over and see if all points were right.

February 14: Tuesday.

The above [newspaper clipping] is the speech of Senator Dr. A. D. Markley before the Senate. I had by his request reviewed it at his office in the Drexel Building in Phila. and to give him some points he then did not have. The above in the Legislative Record came to me at 8 P.M. yesterday just after a "Press" Reporter had interviewed me on the subject contained in my "bill" left me.

February 15: Wednesday.

This morning, Wednesday Feb 15th, I find in the Phila. Press the report of the interview. A pretty fair statement. I have pasted it on page 232. I think that what Dr. Morton said will do no harm though I was really surprised that he should have said a word in favor of Superintendents having any supervision over the female physicians. For several years he has been in favor of both reforms which my bill advocates and has so declared in his report of two or more years ago as chairman of the Lunacy Board

Congratulatory Letter from Prof. Traill Green, M.D.

Easton Feb 14, 1893

My Dear Dr. Corson,

I was pleased with the good vote which your 'bill' rec'd. in the Senate. I do hope that the House will not fail in giving good support to it, that you may see that all your good work has been crowned with the success that it merits. I find a former student of mine in the College, Mr. Cessna is on the General Judiciary Committee of the House. I have written to him and made as good a plea as I could for the measure. I hope we may have his support. I believe he is the only member of the House that I know, but I addressed S. M. Wherry also. I hope we may hear the action of the House soon.

I have had a good time this winter, though it has been so cold. I hope you have had a comfortable time.

As ever very sincerely yours with kindest regards,

Traill Green.

To this I made immediate reply gratefully acknowledging his timely support of the bill and referring him to the Reporter's article of his interview with me which appeared in the "Phila. Press" this morning.

February 16: Thursday.

Very busy answering letters to those who are working for the passage of my bill

in the House. Bertie Day [is] posing for Hovenden's great painting. I have been busy all day with letters & a visit to Norristown.

February 17: Friday.

Rec'd. a letter from Senator Markley wishing me to come to "Drexel Building," Phila. on tomorrow to see him and see what further we can do now to save the "bill" which will be before the Judiciary of the House on Tuesday, Feb. 28th. An unpromising day thus for fair weather tomorrow. I staid at home all day.

February 18: Saturday.

Joseph came unexpectedly from Washington last evening. And though it snowed during the whole of last night and the snow is from 4 to 6 inches deep this morning and still a fine snow fall continuing, Joseph & myself went in the 10 A.M. train to Phila. After taking me to Dr. M.'s room, 7th story, he went to Provident Life and Trust Company to leave some papers, while I staid with Senator Markley and discussed our concern and arranged that he should try to get the "Times" and I get the "Press" and the "Ledger" to issue a commendatory review of Senator Markley's speech and his success in having the bill pass the Senate by a vote of 40 to 3.

Joseph returned in about half an hour and we started to walk up to Arch & Fifth where we waited a while for the Cable Car and were at Broad St. Station in time to take the 12:25, and at Spring Mill James & the sleigh were waiting for us. Soon at home and at dinner. But I must state that I had an attack of palp. before I reached the Station [at] Broad & Market St. It went off after a glassful of cold water was taken. Before reaching Spring Mill it returned, but I said nothing about it and while in the sleigh on my way home, it ceased to palpitate and I was well as before. Dinner at 2 ½ P.M.

February 19: Sunday.

Bertie Yocom Jr. came yesterday and Bertie Day went home from Thomas Hovenden's yesterday P.M. None of us went out this forenoon, though the sleighing was excellent. Since dinner, Joseph took Bertha Yocom a sleigh ride around Barren Hill, and Frannie Day came here at 2 P.M. Now 3 o'clock, and I will pause.

February 20: Monday.

A fierce night wind and snow. A weak cyclone here last at 9 ½ o'clock. Further up country at Wilkesbarre [sic] and adjacent towns, for about seven minutes a real one. Winds fifty miles an hour and perfectly terrific with thunder and lightening and afterwards wind all night. Many people fled from their houses. Snow drifted roads this morning so that we could not get out with the sleigh even to the post office save by going across our field to the Conshohocken turn-pike road. Bertha Yocom can't get off to the City. At 4 P.M. Joseph and our man contrived to get her to the Spring Mill by a round about way. I staid in the house all day as the wind was strong, the snow drifting and the thermometer at 16° the highest in the whole day.

February 21: Tuesday.

Joseph & self went to Jawood Lukens this morning & there met Edgar Carter, his

[Joseph's] brother-in-law, who had just come on a brief visit to Jay & Susan and Thomas Hovenden.

In my interview with Senator Markley, I promised to see the Editors of the "Press" and the "Ledger" and get them if possible to publish editorials in favor of the "bill," our "bill," which will be before the House Judiciary Com. next Tuesday 28th for consideration and which we fear we can't get from there with a favorable recommendation. I think I will write an article to print and then, if they will do it, let them approve it, &c., &c.

In the afternoon went to the Election and to Thos. Hovenden's studio to see the great painting he is making to send to the Columbian Exposition at Chicago, &c., &c.

Points to be touched in my paper: (1) Begin by referring to the published speech of Senator Markley [and] the great majority vote; (2) and the distinction between the hospitals managed by Superintendents and those by Trustees; (3) the approval by the Com. on Lunacy & B. P. C., the State and County Societies, &c.; (4) refer to what the Senator has said about the frequent charges of cruelty in Supt. hospitals and the absence of it in a hospital like the one in Norristown under female care; (5) refer briefly to the fact that Dr. Curwen now sees the great benefit growing out of the introduction of a medical woman for the insane of the sex in place of the former male assistant.

Letter from Portrait man, &c., &c.

February 22: Wednesday.

A fierce storm of snow this morning, though the temperature is about 25° F. But I think it snowed moderately during the night.

February 23: Thursday.

Staid in the house yesterday, save a sleigh-ride to Consho. with Joseph who was somewhat mortified that he upset me. The drifts were big. No one can ride through our road. We cross the field to Consho.-pike road.

This morning at 8 o'clock Joseph left for home. Yesterday there was a fearful, fatal collision at South Street crossing of the Schuylkill R. Roads at South St. A powerful engine going at 50 miles an hour, cutting through the middle of a West Chester train killing six & wounding 18.

At 3 P.M. went to Consho. to meet Dr. Thos. G. Morton who wished to see me about my bill. Did not come. I will not compromise.

Palp. 4 times today. Have not taken my digitalis, &c., &c., for two days.

February 24: Friday.

Disagreeable weather. In the house nearly all day.

February 25: Saturday.

It is now in the early morning, not promising well for a fine day. The roads too are slippery and though it seems necessary for me to go to Phila., I am in doubt about it. Why need I go? 1st., next Tuesday my bill that Dr. Markley our Senator has had referred to the House Committee will be up for consideration and the Chairman of that Committee and many others in it will make strong efforts to report it adversely. So it behoves [behooves] us to be on the alert, to carry it to the House favorably reported. 2nd,

Dr. Thomas G. Morton, "Ch. of the Com. on Lunacy," has written to me to see him if possible that we may settle on the exact measures that we will hold to. 3rd, Senator Markley is desirous to see me at his City office on the same business, and on the need to have a paper published in one of the leading papers, and 250 copies sent to him in Harrisburg that he may have laid on the desks of members of the House. So I was up at 6:20 and at once went down stairs and began to write the paper. I had it ready soon after breakfast, donned some clean clothes, took little "Jimmy" with me and his father James wished us down to Spring Mill just in time to take the ten A.M. to Broad & Market St. depot. We were soon at Dr. Morton's, where I not only met him, but also the Sec. of the Lunacy Committee, my friend Henry Wetherill. Dr. M. only wished to add to my bill a closing section that nothing in this act shall be construed as obliterating or in any way impairing the office and functions of the Board of Public Charities. Of course I could not only agree to it, but would not wish my own bill to pass if such a construction could be put upon it.

I then showed them the paper I had written by request of Senator Markley. They were greatly pleased with it and desirous that it should be printed to be laid on the desks of the members. With a promise by Dr. M. to meet me at 12 noon at Senator Markley's room, Jimmy and self took the Car just passing the door to the Drexel Building, 5th & Chestnut, and found Dr. M. [Markley] ready for us. He was greatly pleased that Dr. Morton asked no more, for more neither of us would give, and much pleased with my paper and very anxious that I should have it published and sent to him on Monday so that he could have them on every desk on Tuesday morning. It was then 12 ½ o'clock. I hurried to 6th & Chestnut to Ledger office, made my way (with Jimmy) up to the 3rd floor & then along an entry of what seemed half a square in length to the office of Clarke Davis, Supervising Editor. He agreed to all that I wanted and promised to have them at Harrisburg at the needed time. Leaving him we made our way to 9th & Green, Reading R. Road depot, took the 1:30 train and just after two were at Spring Mill.

At Dr. Morton's I had an attack of palp. but said nothing about it till I reached Dr. Markley's office on 7th floor of the Drexel. He procured me ice-water and it left me. Again as I was in the train for home it attacked me. When I reached home the ice water was again conqueror [sic]. I was weary but cheered, as Dr. Morton had assured me that with my agreement to add his clause, he would personally at Harrisburg on next Tuesday or Wednesday have my "bill" passed.

On reaching home I found a letter from Dr. Traill Green to whom I had written about Dr. Morton's wish to guard the rights of the B. P. C. Dr. Green urged me to stand fast to our bill and offered, if I wish it, to go to Harrisburg on Tuesday and personally defend it. So I wrote a long letter to him informing him exactly what Dr. M. wanted and that Senator Markley and myself were quite willing to accommodate him, as it did not affect the vital matters, but would rather lose the bill than to allow any alteration of it. Then I also wrote to Senator Markley to look for the 250 papers which I had ordered sent to the Post Master of the House as per his request.

Then I was truly weary and took to the lounge until supper time, 6 P.M. So here I am at the end I hope of this six years struggle to sweep away the old law which gave Supt's. despotic power and prevented reforms which would have increased the comfort & welfare of insane females.

February 26, 27, 28: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday.

I merely congratulated myself that I was done with the work. I took things easy, felt relief from care almost wholly and awaited the result of the action of the House of Representatives.

March 1: Wednesday.

Great banks of snow in the roads yet, but roads have been cut through so that we can get to Spring Mill instead of going "a round-about way." So I went with James in the sleigh to bring daughter Frannie from Sp. Mill.

The evening mail brought to me letters from Prof. Traill Green, M.D. and Senator Markley, M.D. I opened them quickly and anxiously to see the result of the trial, as today was to end the matter. I was disappointed. The trial before the Judiciary Committee has been post-poned until March 8th. Dr. Green had been up and so favorably impressed Mr. Cessna, a leading member, that he agreed to advocate it before the Committee to get a "favorable recommendation" of it, an important matter, as without it we are lost, can't go before the House with it.

Senator Markley is satisfied, thinks the post-ponement will favor us. We can do more work. Wishes me to come to the Drexel Building on Saturday for consultation.

Dr. Ulrich of Delaware Co. sent me a cheering letter, and papers came with commendatory editorials of our bill and my paper of Monday.

March 2: Thursday.

Wrote and rec'd. letters. Roads and weather miserable. Did not go out much. This printed scrap from Norristown Herald. [Reference to newspaper clipping pasted in the diary].

March 3: Friday.

Rec'd. a number of letters, but for that matter hardly a day passes that I do not. Have replied to nearly a dozen since yesterday morning, today to Horatio Wood, Phebe Wright and two others. Have read valuable medical papers too, and wrote to the authors. I think it is a duty we owe to one who has written a valuable paper to commend him for it. He has done us service.

March 8: Wednesday.

I have written none here since the 3rd because the weather and roads have been such that I concluded not to expose myself greatly. Yesterday I went to Norristown. I saw daughter Tacie and her daughter, then to the town to Bank, &c. On returning stopped at Isaac Styers to see Hannah Richie, daughter of brother Alan, who is quite sick there and 80 years old last November.

Dr. Shrawder, poor fellow. He is awaiting the sale of Patent-rights of an invention of his to have a door, however forcibly thrown to be shut, close noiselessly. He was anxious to do somewhat for my bill now before the Legislature, so I asked him to write an anonymous article in favor of it, for insertion in the Press. He sat down at once and ran it off. I gave him two dollars and today it is in the Press signed Humanity, as I advised. A right good article too.

Dr. Morton's attack on the Norristown Hospital and Trustees and Dr. Bennett, a most uncalled for attack and more than that, a false one has been turned upon him to his great discomfiture. In a few days I will have the report of the Trustees, of Dr. Bennett and the B.P.C, all and each of which must make my friend Dr. Morton feel deep mortification. Again, I may say, "C'est le premium pas qui coute," = "It is the first step that costs."

March 10: Friday.

Last night's mail brot me letters from some strangers interested in different subjects. One in opposition to the Germ Theory of disease, another on Insanity and especially my bill, [and from] Mr. Baer of the Board of Trustees of the Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburg, and who is a warm advocate for it. At my request as he could not be there today, he hand sent a most sensible paper to be laid before the Committee yesterday at 5 P.M. It was a long and valuable one. It accompanied his letter to me and though it occupied (in my copy of it written before I went to bed, eight pages of closely written fools-cap), I was anxious to have it, and as I had to return his, I wrote it off. This [is] badly expressed.

Another letter was from a Mr. Guilbert to whom I had written thanks for a newspaper article showing that at the hospital at Dover, New Hampshire, a few nights ago 44 out of 49 insane locked in their rooms were burned to death;.

And got one more [from one] who had rec'd. a letter from me, but who at the moment was so engaged that he tore it open, glassed through it, then had to run to his sick wife and lost the half read paper. By search found who sent it, then wrote of the offer. Nearly every one, indeed all of them required answers. I have fixed all up.

Dr. Shrawder came here with an article in favor of my bill and though if they expect to decide its fate today it can not reach the lawgivers, I allowed him to take it to the Public Ledger for insertion. He wanted money to go to New York. I let him have \$6.00. He is smart but how.

I am anxiously waiting the evening paper for information about my bill. How I do hope it has passed. We have worked hard for it. The few who have aided me might all be said to [have] personal interest in it, while I have none and have some expenses. We have caused an interest to be felt by hundreds this year that were not much awaked before. Should I fail now, I will attack it again should I live two years, which is not likely. Yet who knows? Even if I do not, the subject is fairly stamped on the minds and hearts of good people who will not let it die, but will press it on to success.

March 11: Saturday.

4 P.M. All day I have been busy reading, writing on answering correspondents. There are several new articles in Harrisburg and Philadelphia papers on my bill and all plead for its immediate passage. The presence of Dr. Curwen, the oldest of Superintendents, is spoken of in condemnatory terms, so too the shameless conduct of Speaker Thompson of the House for leaving his seat to go from member to member to act on him against the bill. I would have gone to Phila. to meet Dr. Markley, but the weather was bad and as the bill is now in the Committee's hands, I could not see that I could do any thing more of value. He no doubt looked for me.

Have had a long letter from Prof. Hiram Corson of Cornell University, son of my brother Joseph Dickinson Corson. His wife's companion on their trip around the world was when in Spain, called home by telegram on account of her mother's great illness, so Mrs. Hiram Corson is at home now.

I had written to him for influence to get a position for Dr. Dolley, but had failed to enclose Dr. D.'s letter to me. I immediately enclosed it with a letter from me, and as Prof. Corson's letter was a very commendatory one in relation to Dr. Dolley, I sent it to him for Perusal.

I am very weary now and will rest a while.

March 12: Sunday.

I did not leave home this forenoon. Jaywood & Susan came about 10 A.M. and staid until 12 noon. After dinner went to Isaac Styer's to see my niece Hannah Richie, whom I found better than a few days ago.

On my way home came by Hickorytown, the place where I was born and lived until I was 21 years of age, before I studied medicine. How changed!! As I came down the turnpike road from the top of Sandy-Hill, how the people who were living in the houses there seventy or more years ago came up before me as they then were, good old Peter Shoemaker and his kind old wife Hannah; old drunken John White and his faithful and abused wife Prissy; John Dewees and his wife Polly; and all their children who despite their fathers intemperance were excellent sons and daughters; Frederick Dull Andrew who succeeded him as tavern-keeper in the houses where I, we lived; the Coulston's, Davis', &c., &c., &c. All now, every one, not even a descendant of them, save one, Fred'k Dull's grand-daughter, Sarah Detweiler and her brother William Dull now residing at the old Coulston's place. "Here," I said to myself as I looked up to the window of the room where I was born more than 88 years ago, "here I am alone. Father, Mother, both sisters and my five brothers gone! Gone! All the old, middle aged and the young passed away. How full of life! how busy! How they enjoyed it! How important they seemed to be to the prosperity of the region around! Yet now, all still in death, and those who occupy their homes scarcely know that such people ever lived there. I came on till I reached the old Coulston Home where my step-mother Ellen Coulston was born and lived until married to my father, a second wife. She was the niece of Miss Ellen Coulston who married David Rittenhouse the Astronomer. I stopped there. The old buildings of that day are away. Stopped there to see Sarah Dull Detweiler, gd. daughter of the old Frederick and Sarah Scheets his wife, and daughter of their son Frederick, who as a boy was but a year younger than myself. I found her and her brother Wm. at home. They are hard working farmers, but excellent people. Indeed Sarah is an excellent woman, so kind and good; spent a half hour with them.

It is bed-time.

March 15: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Since last writing I have gone along without much to note. Have had but little trouble with my heart. Palps. generally struck me once or twice a day, but if I waited a few minutes, about three or four, it would stop, and it did not come back at night at all. The weather has been rough and I did not go away much. Was in Norristown & Conshohocken, &c., &c. Weather very cold two of these days.

Rec'd. a letter from Prof. Hiram Corson in reply to mine, after he had read Prof. Dolley's that I had sent to him. He doesn't think Dr. Dolley can possibly have a chance to become President of any Western University. They look specially for a man of established executive ability, don't care much for his science. Had one also from Dr. Dolley.

After dinner I had the man to take me to Norristown. After going to the Bank & Trust Co. & John J. Corson's, at 3 P.M. I went to the Woman's Suffrage meeting in Coleman's Hall. The Hall was nearly full when I went in. The meeting was composed of ladies with only six men. There were several short speeches and then I was called on by the President, Mrs. Blakenbury [Blackenbury] who was strong in praise of me, not one word of which did I hear. I rose and spoke for about 10 minutes. The regular speakers had not yet been called. Then Mr. Blackwell, Editor of the Woman's Journal was called on, so Miss Hindman of Allegheny City was called and delivered a most interesting discourse and was followed by Mr. Blackwell, husband of Lucy Stone, who was eminent in this cause before her marriage. He differed on some points from Miss Hindman. After adjournment at 5 ½ o'clock, we had refreshments for all, but particularly for all who expected to stay to hear the two last named speakers at 8 P.M. As I did not like to be out after night, I took "a bite" and left for home where we arrived before it was quite dark. It was pleasant to meet so many who were pleased to meet me.

At 8 o'clock there was a good meeting in the Hall. Some of the County people went home, the night being so dark and the roads bad, they feared to stay. But there were a good many men at the meeting. It was the first public meeting of the Suffragists in a big hall. Mr. Blackwell & Miss Hindman were speakers.

March 17: Friday.

I went to Spring Mill to bring Frannie Day and Bertha Yocom to spend the day. We had a pleasant day, and I took them back to take the 4:41 train from Spring Mill.

March 18: Saturday.

Nothing to note specially, save that Edward Wistar and two sons, aged 9 & 13, came here and staid a couple of hours after one P.M. I was not away the whole day. In the evening Dr. Shrawder came. He left Sunday morning.

March 19: Sunday.

Rose early. Had slept well. Read the whole of Friends Intelligencer & Journal before eleven o'clock when Jaywood Lukens & his wife, daughter Susan arrived. They staid till 3 ½ P.M. It was a very pleasant visit to us. At 4 P.M. Walter Corson & wife and Miss Emily Corson came and spent an hour with us. It too was very agreeable to us.

March 20, 21, 22 and 23: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Nothing out of the usual way occurred.

March 24: Friday.

Received letters from Harrisburg yesterday that my bill before the Legislature was lost in the House. Well! Let it be so. We lost nothing by our efforts but gained friends

and of the best kind and diffused a knowledge of the impropriety, to say nothing more, of the old superintendent way of treating the Insane.

I feel much better this morning than I did yesterday morning, even though the bill did fail. I suppose I can never again try my bill. But no matter, others will do it hereafter.

Yesterday I was engaged in correcting a genealogical history of the Davis family of Plymouth made by Lawyer Hetrick of Easton, Pa., who married a daughter of Barney Davis of Easton and who was of the Plymouth family. I found it quite interesting, and as I knew so many of them 70 or more years ago, I was able to correct some errors into which Mr. Hetrick had fallen.

March 25: Saturday.

Left for Phila. at 9:55 from Sp. Mill, was at Senator Markley's office, Drexel Building, South E. Cor., 5th and Chestnut, on 7th floor, No.143 at 11 ¼; had a long talk. He says, there is yet "a ghost of a chance" for getting our bill out of the Com. & before the House, and he wishes a few articles written for County papers in favor of the bill and against the interference of the Speaker of the House. I have promised to have them put in the papers.

At 12 was at Bertha's; at 3 P.M., with Georgie & James Yocom, gd.children, were in the cars for home; after which I took a ride of 2 miles on business. I went to bed at 9 P.M. very tired.

March 26: Sunday.

Am at the Davis Genealogy for Hetrick. At 10:30 Jay & Susan came; left at noon. After dinner I visited Wm. Davis's family & Mary & Anna Harry and got their mother's genealogy Book of Davis', Harry, Woods, &c., &c., so as to complete the tables for Mr. Hetrick.

March 30: Thursday.

I have been wonderfully busy since last writing with money matters and the Markley bill in the Legislature, getting short articles in the papers of various counties in favor of the bill, and in sharply denouncing the conduct of Thompson, the "Speaker of the House." So that I have had no time for the Davis Genealogy.

Today Edward F. Wistar walked from Chestnut Hill to see me and prevail on me to address his expected company in the "Evening Hour" at his house on evening of April 10th. We arranged that he might announce it, and that if I should not get there, they would pass the evening in another way. I do not now intend to go. Directly after he left, I regretted that I had not stood out for not going at all and started in the carriage to over-take him and tell him so. Could not reach him as he took to the fields, so came home feeling quite unhappy. But just before I got home, it occurred to me to place in his hands my brochures on the "Recognition of Women Physicians," and the efforts of myself to procure a law to have "Women Physicians for the insane of the sex, This scheme satisfied me completely, as they will be gratified to know how those things occurred. My report on the subject is one of the best I ever have made, and so convincing to the State Soc. that it aided me to complete the work with in a little over two years from the introduction of my motion to consider the subject.

April 1: Saturday.

7 A.M. Beautiful spring-like weather yesterday and this is a warm, pleasant morning. I had two spells of palpitation yesterday. Indeed I have had two attacks every day this week, but sometimes they will cease in two or three minutes without taking the water. Several of the times I could not get the water quickly, perhaps for half or whole hour, and it would go battering on fiercely till I could get it, then in an instance it was gone. I have been for a week taking an elixir of Quinine, Iron and Strychnia 1/64 of a grain.

April 2: Sunday.

James Yocom and Bertha and Thomas their son and Edgar Carter, Joseph Corson's brother-in-law, were all here to dinner. No James came after dinner and all went out after dinner to see Thomas Hovenden's last beautiful painting, "The Bride's Return," which is to be at the Chicago on April 10th, for exhibit in the Columbus Fair, "The 400th Anniversary of Columbus' Discovery of America." It is a beautiful picture. Grand daughter Bertha Day is the Central Figure, the Bride. Walter Corson & wife the groom and sister of the groom; she is whispering to him while her father is seated on a chair looking at his wife who is helping her daughter-in-law take off her cloak. A little daughter of Mr. Hovenden is sitting on the window seat, and back of all through a door the porter is seen going up stairs with a trunk on his shoulder and the house maid is peeping through the door. It is a splendid exhibit of what an artist can do. That plain board surface is made to appear as a large and beautiful sitting room.

April 4: Tuesday.

Weather warm & spring-like. Yesterday [was] in Norristown collecting money and arranging business with John J. Corson.

Today in Norristown again, collecting interest, &c. In the afternoon in Conshohocken doing likewise; very weary when I got home at 5 P.M. Writing ever since supper a letter to Edward Wistar to be used if I do not go to his evening hour entertainment on Ap. 10th. I have finished the letter, or paper and lapped it up with three printed papers, any one of which will interest the club as well as I could if present.

Rec'd. a reply from Edward by the evening mail stating that he will be in his office, 4th & Chestnut, tomorrow between 11 A.M. & 2 P.M. to meet me, if I can come down. I will try to go and take the papers spoken of, so, if I should fail to go, they will have something to entertain the club. It is now 9:30 P.M. and I must go to bed.

April 5: Wednesday.

Took the Cars at 8 at Sp. Mill for 9th & Green. From there to see Joseph C. Fraley about the Cresson Mill trouble. After that to see Mr. Wm. Drayton, both in Walnut near 7th. But on my way to them, I stopped in Chestnut St. at Lecic's Rubber Store and supplied myself with bands. After leaving Mr. Drayton, I went to Provident Co. to see Edward M. Wistar on 9th story and spent a whole hour in showing him my three pamphlets and in giving him a brief account of them so that he can have them, or one of them read to the audience, if I should fail to be there. Next to the Pa. Cars at Broad St. 5 minutes before the 12:25 started to bring me to Conshohocken; hired a cab

there to take me to Jawood Lukens'. Sat with them for dinner and it over, Archy brot me home at 2:25.

Edward Wistar is very anxious that I shall come and as he has invited Frannie, probably I will go and then return to her home to sleep, if she should have a carriage to take me with her, and since I got home I have written to her to that effect.

I came home soon today that Helen & Mary might go to a "Tea" at my nephew's, Dr. Read's home, given by his daughter Nina.

7 P.M. Mary and Helen have returned.

April 6: Thursday.

Wrote a good many letters in reply to yesterday's & to E. M. Wistar, Frannie, &c. At 2 o'clock went to Bank to deposit some money, with Helen Hovenden. Yesterday Thomas Hovenden sent his picture, "The Bride's Return," to Chicago to the Fair.

April 7: Friday.

Very wet but I went out to see some old patients not to prescribe for them but because they were not well, and since they had not had any other doctor than myself for fifty years or so and did not want to get another unless I thought they needed medicine; they were desirous to see me.

Mr. Staley and his wife, I counseled them that it was not necessary, that there was no organic disease about them. He is 85 years old and she 79 and has had 16 children. All of them were born under my ministrations, 15 boys and one girl. The girl has been married several years but has not had any.

Honors bestowed [on] Dr. Hiram Corson, born Oct. 8, 1804:

- 1) Graduated in Medicine (M.D.), University of Pa., 1828;
- 2) Elected "Honorary Member, Phil. Co. Med. Society" in 1828;
- 3) Founder and member, Montg'y. Co. Med. Soc. in 1847. Prior to 1847, I knew but two medical societies in the State, one at Lancaster and one in Phila.;
- 4) Elected mem[ber] Pennsylvania Med. Society in 1848;
- 5) President, Montg'y. Co. Medical Society in 1849;
- 6) President, Pa. State Medical Society in 1853;
- 7) Elected Corresponding Member, Paye Literary Society at Millersville, Normal School, 1858;
- 8) Member Am. Med. Association in 1862;
- 9) Elected Corresponding Member of the Meigs and Mason Academy of Medicine at Middleport, Ohio in 1873;
- 10) Elected "Associate Fellow of College of Physicians" of Philadelphia in 1876;
- 11) Elected Associate Member of the Obstetrical Society of Philad. in 1874;
- 12) Elected Honorary Member of Harrisburg Pathological Society, 1881;
- 13) Elected to "Life Membership" in University of Pennsylvania Alumnae Association, 1879. I was for several years [a] member of the Executive Com. of the Alumni Assoc. of University of Pa. and am now one of its Vice Presidents.
- 14) Elected member of the Pennsylvania Historical Society of Pa. for my Reminiscences of the Cholera of 1832, 1884;
- 15) Appointed by Governor John K. Hartranft Member of the Board of Trustees of Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburg, [to fill] a vacancy in 1877 and re-appointed in 1878;

- 16) Re-appointed by Governor Hoyt for 3 yrs. in 1881;
- 17) Appointed by Board of Public Charities "Official Visitor" to Montgomery Co. Jail and Alms House, and after some years of service [was] appointed to the same office in the Hospital for the Insane at Norristown, now in 1893, within a score or so of 2000 patients. Declined the appointment and resigned the former one on account of advanced age, being in the eighties.
- 18) Elected Honorary Member of the American Association of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, 1890;
- 19) "The Faculty of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, believing that the present useful honorable position of women physicians in the State Hospitals for the Insane in Pennsylvania is mainly owing to the disinterested, persistent and energetic efforts of Dr. Hiram Corson of Conshohocken, desire to convey to Doctor Corson their hearty thanks and mutual congratulations and expressions of the high esteem." Frances Emily White

Ch. Of the Committee.

The above report was unanimously adopted and the Dean instructed to send a copy of the same to Dr. Corson. Respectfully,

January 28th, 1881

Rachel Bodey, Dean.

The above is only a part of the kind letter sent to me by Dr. White. I regret that I have not preserved answers to all the letters sent to me by the various Secretaries of the bodies who have honored me. It may be allowable for me here to record my reply in this case. Who wants to see it can find it in 1881 Book of January, so I will not put it here.

- 20) A promised visit from Count Tolstoi. The following letter from Mrs. Dr. David R. Beaver explains:

Dr. Hiram Corson.

Dear Sir: Last Thursday M. Louise Thomas of New York visited me. You will remember her as the wife of Rev'd. Abel C. Thomas, Universalist preacher who died some years ago. She was sent to Russia last spring by "The Famine Relief Association." She was in charge of a ship-load of supplies for the famine stricken region. Now she made me give you this message. "Tell Hiram Corson, for me, that I have been praying earnestly he might live to see Count Tolstoi, who purposes coming to America this Spring. I want to bring the Count to see Hiram Corson." Mrs. Thomas visited Count Tolstoi on his Estate and has many most-interesting anecdotes to relate of this wonderful man.

Mary Patterson Beaver

- 21) Vote of Thanks of Obstetrical Society of Philad.

Nov. 4th 1880

Hiram Corson, M.D.

Dear Doctor: At a meeting of the Society held this evening, I was directed, by unanimous vote of the Society, to tender to you their thanks for the very interesting and valuable paper on mammary abscess, which has been read before them by Dr. Goodell.

Respectfully Yours,
W. H. H. Githens,

Secretary.

22) Another approval from Dr. J. Curtis Smith in Aurora, Indiana:

June 20, 1882

Dear Dr..... Recently a case came under my care, where pus had evidently formed but not to any considerable extent. The patient was a very obedient, practical common-sense lady. Her dear lady-friends were fairly blistering her already, fevered breast, with hot poultices, pancakes, &c., &c., adding greatly to the suffering of the afflicted woman. After not quite a knock-down and drag-out of those disciples of the hot poultice, I succeeded in having a cushion if ice applied to the suffering mammary gland in the manner which you commend. This had the effect to relieve her entirely as soon as the cold had time to reduce the heat to something near to the normal degree. She said, "that ice gave me so much ease and comfort, but the poultices were so hot and my breast so hot and painful, it was terrible to endure. After the ice was applied there was no further extension of the inflammation..... I never had a happier result in so threatening a case. I believe the ice treatment, so warmly and sensibly advocated by you in this affection, should have the credit."

Very Cordially Yours,

J. Curtis Smith

23) Dr. A. C. L. Ramsay, Minnesota fails with the ice. Failed with him. Timid trifling trial no doubt. Dr. Ramsay on ice in Mammary Inflammation.

St. Cloud, Minn., July 4, 1882

Hiram Corson, M.D.

Dear Doctor. I am another of those poor, sorely tried physicians on treatment of mammary abscess. Having met with nothing but signal failure with the usual treatment, Belladonna, &c., I had recourse to the treatment which you so clearly outlined in no. vol. 14 of the American Journal of Obstetrics, and there I met with a bad result. I would gladly receive any suggestion from so experienced a physician. It has hurt me in my practice a good deal, to have recourse to such barbarous practice as my confreres here call it. Hoping I will hear from you soon.

I remain yours, &c.

A. C. L. Ramsay, M.D.

Ramsay is a timid weak man, I think.

24) April, 1892, I was invited to address the Phila. Co. Med. Society on Pneumonia and its treatment in the Hall of Physicians in Phila. When the paper was ready and the time had arrived I was unable, being sick, so the paper I had prepared was read by gd. nephew, Dr. Geo. N. Highley.

25) Letter from Dr. Oscar Allis after the meeting.

1604 Spruce St., Phila.
Ap. 14, 1892

Dear Dr. Corson.

I was early at the County Medical Society last evening hoping to have a pleasant chat with you before the hour of meeting, but instead I found your nephew, Dr. Highley.

The paper elicited much discussion. Besides those appointed, Drs. Horatio C. Wood, Duland, Woodbury, Cohen, La-Place and J. B. Roberts took part and spoke to a crowded house. Dr. Highley read it well and spoke manfully and energetically in its behalf. For my own part, I took no other part than to ask that a type writer make a copy of it [to] be made for the publishers and that the original be bound with the portrait of the writer and preserved by the Society. Will you kindly send me a few lines written on similar paper with the statement that much of it was prepared while you were confined to bed. If you do not feel able to do this, Dr. Highley could make such a statement as a brief preface to the article, giving the age of the writer. We are all well and regret that Uncle Hiram is indisposed.

Very Sincerely,
Oscar H. Allis

26) Another letter.

1809 Chestnut St., Philadelphia

My Dear Dr. Corson.

Dr. Highley has doubtless told you of the cordial interest in your paper and in yourself, as well, shown at the meeting of the Co. Society. As the President remarked from the Chair, "No other meeting had been so largely attended and no discussion so earnestly pursued for a long time." We are delighted to have heard from you in this way, and all were sorry that you could not be present. Dr. Highley filled the place assigned, both in reading and discussion, in a way to gratify every one.

Wont you take dinner with me some day very soon?

Yours very sincerely,
Chas. H. Thomas

4.15.1892

27) Philadelphia County Medical Society

N. E. Cor. Thirteenth & Locust Sts., Phila.

April 15, 1892

Dr. Hiram Corson.

Dear Doctor.

At a meeting of the Philadelphia County Medical Society held April 13th, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted. Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to Dr. Hiram Corson for the interesting and valuable paper on "Pneumonia and its unsuccessful treatment by arterial sedatives and its successful treatment

by blood-letting” and that the Secretary be instructed to convey to Dr. Corson an expression of the sympathy of the Society in his illness, and an assurance of its cordial regard for him always.

Resolved, That the original paper be bound and filed in the archives of the Society, together with a photograph of Dr. Corson, if this be obtainable.”

Yours very truly,

J. B. Schneideman, Sec’y.

1807 Chestnut St.

April 8: Saturday.

In Conshohocken this morning collecting monies due me Ap. 1st. I went to Norristown after dinner on business, Mary with me. Palp. struck me just after I left for home. After reaching home, ice-water took it off and I lay down. In half an hour had it back on me. Again the water stopped it. After supper I had very, very severe pain in my left side, under the margin of the ribs. Took some sulph. morph. 1/8 gr; warmed my feet. It was very warm today, and I got almost overcome with the heat, having on all my thick clothes. After I got home had palp., &c., which perhaps caused the pain.

April 9: Sunday.

I had palp. before breakfast and 3 times more before 2 P.M. Ice-water took them off quickly. At 4:30 I went to Conshohocken to drop letters in P.O. (ours does not avail us on Sunday) and to get some of the medicine which I had been taking and which had almost averted attacks of palp., but which I have not taken any for four days, namely Elixir of Sulph. Quinine and Iron with Strychnia 1/64 gr. to every teaspoonful. Just as I started to come home, palp. came. I came on. Bertie Yocom & our Mary were with me and “Jimmy” driving. Within half an hour after reaching home at six P.M., I had taken at least four tumblers nearly full of cold water, not so cold though as it should have been, as the pitcher was in a rather warm room. Then took (after half an hour’s pause) a teaspoonful of my medicine and 25 drops Tinct. Digitalis. Palp. kept at it till 9 P.M. when the ice-water stopped it. I then went to bed, but in ten minutes it recurred. Again water stopped it. In ¼ of hour [it] came [again]. I just concluded to lie still and wait a while, as it would sometime when the stomach had much cold water in it, pass off soon; it did so that time. Slept an hour. At 11 P.M. up to urinate, which I had been doing every 20 to 30 minutes, save the hour that I slept. I stooped to pick the light from the floor and old palp. struck me again. I laid me down and in about 10 minutes it went off and did not come again till morning but had to urinate at least every half hour until 3 A.M. on the 10th when it left me.

The above account I wrote in the night as the events occurred.

April 11: Tuesday.

I took my medicine before every meal yesterday and had no spell until about five o’clock P.M. Had none last night. Was up at 5:30 this morning. After I got dressed found the sun had just risen. Always like to get up with the sun. It is now noon and no body could have been busier than I have been since I rose this morning. So many letters to write, so much helping James, the man, to trim vines and bushes. Went to Post

Office, then to depot at Spring Mill to look for Iron Post sent to me by James Yocom; found it.

Yesterday was the time fixed for me to address the "Evening Hour Club" at Edward M. Wistar's home "Roadside," the once Home of Lucretia Mott, the celebrated Quaker Preacher, Hicksite, and afterwards the Home of her son-in-law Edward M. Davis, the persevering abolitionist & noble man. I had notified him that I would not be present, but had given him a paper of mine to read, "The Report to the State Med. Society on the propriety of having female physicians for the female Insane," a paper that captured the Society, I mean the State Medical Society.

9 P.M. The afternoon's doings were of no unusual kind. Went to Spring Mill in the carriage, to the Station to find if an Iron hitching-post sent to me by son-in-law James Yocom had arrived. Very good my sons-in-law are in giving me now & then some useful present as a reminder of their interest in my comfort. The evening, after supper at 6 P.M., spent as usual in reading my letters which come at seven, writing replies, if needed, or new ones to those whom I know, and reading the "Daily Herald and Free Press" of Norristown.

April 13: Thursday.

I began to write the above at 6 A.M. Palp. struck me just as I wrote the last word. I at once went up stairs to the ice water which I keep in the entry there every night, took five swallows and it ceased its palpitation. It is now 12 minutes after six and I am well as ever and at work.

Yesterday's work. The mail brot me letters from Frannie & from Edward Wistar, about the "Evening Hour" at Edward's House. As they will be lost if I do not insert them here, I will do it.

905 Provident Building, eleventh
Philad. IV.11.1893

Dear Uncle Doctor.

Yesterday I went to Huntington Station to meet thee. Was there before the 4:30 train from Norristown and though feeling it quite uncertain as to thy coming and considering all things quite proper for thee to remain at Maple Hill, still I found myself not a little disappointed (when thee did not emerge from the train), not for myself, but for the Club. Despite our being off in the country, apart from all other members, and most of our invited guests, and despite the stormy day and evening, we were favored with a most intelligent company of about sixty. Thy picture arrived safely, and for it please accept my thanks; I am glad to have it. After a few words and reading from thy letters, of last week, I passed the photograph through the audience and read the larger part of the second article in thy pamphlet, embodying almost entire (in the reading, the address urging the resolution for women physicians to be placed in charge of the insane patients; following with the last page and a half of the pamphlet, regarding the Eastern Hospital and Dr. Bennett as a sequence to thy efforts and closed with the minute From the Woman's Medical College, Dr. Bodey, Dean.

Dr. Hartshorne followed with appropriate and pleasing Remarks and Howard Comfort introduced some happy expressions. Dr. Edward G. Rhoades and a young student of Medicine, a Lady, Mary L. Wilson, were present, also Frannie and Richard Day.

Very sincerely thy nephew
E. M. Wistar.

I may as well add here the letter of daughter Frannie Day.

My Dear Father.

We had a very delightful time at Edward's last night. As we had ordered the carriage before thy last letter came, and as the night was so bad, we let it come & take us, and for once gave ourselves to ease and luxury. Edward opened the evening by making very complimentary remarks of thee and thy work and apologized for thy absence. Then read the paper very well and intelligently, and it was listened to with great interest by all. At its close, Dr. Hartshorne was asked to make some remarks, which he did very well indeed, placing thee in the work of emancipating women with Wm. Lloyd Garrison in the work for the abolition of slavery. He gave thee high and just praise, as well as Ann Preston and altogether his remarks were very happily chosen. He was introduced to me as soon as the affair was over and conversation was in order, and I took advantage of the opportunity to thank him for his expression of appreciation of thy work. Ellison Morris was also introduced to us and we had a delightful talk. I found him very pleasant indeed. Altogether we had a very pleasant and gratifying time. Many, many inquires were made after thee and every one seemed to feel genuinely sorry thee was not present. Thy photograph was handed around for inspection; was not that funny? I regretted so much to hear of thy being so much annoyed with palpitation and feel it was influenced by this affair. That feeling of disquietude is very hard on us; at least I find it so.

I am so busy sewing, I will not be able to get up this week, I am sorry to say. With lots of love to Mary
I remain thy loving dau.

Frannie. Ap. 11th/ 93

It is now 20 minutes after eight A.M. and I must [be] away on business in Norristown. It is with John J. Corson's aid, to make out my list of personal property for the Assessor who called for it yesterday.

It is a great gratification to me that the "Evening Hour Club" seemed to enjoy the treat prepared for them. 9 P.M., I must to bed. H.C.

“First Friends in London”

The first meetings of Friends, The Society of Friends, in London, were held in 1654 at first held in private houses, but the attendance so increased that in 1685 they took a large house near to Aldergate. Later on a piece of ground was bought and a meeting house erected. The first messengers were Isabel Buttery and a Companion. They had with them a printed epistle of George Fox, addressed “to all that would know the way to the Kingdom.” This tract was given to any one who desired it. The Mayor considered the distribution of Friends books an offense and those doing it deserving of punishment. In consequence, Isabel Buttery was committed to Bridewell, which is the first instance of Friends suffering for conscience’ sake in London. The above from “Friends Intelligencer” fourth month fifteenth 1893, p. 231.

From the same paper on same page I quote the following: “Among the Friends in London, Ann Downer was the first called to the Ministry.” See the paper for more on the subject. The above copied here Ap. 16th Firstday, 1893, at 9 A.M. H.C.

I now, in reading the whole article again, think I should have copied it all. I may add here that it states that when “George Fox began his efforts, much excitement occurred among the people and he was sent to London and imprisoned as “a disturber of the peace,” but was liberated by Cromwell who treated him kindly and had him asked to drive with the gentlemen of his household. But when the reply came that he would not eat of his bread nor drink of his drink, Cromwell exclaimed, “Now I see there is a people risen that I cannot win with gifts, honors, offices or places, but all other sects of people I can.”

April 15: Saturday.

Yesterday I had palpitation a number of times. Water did its duty. Had a letter from Senator Markley in which he says, we may yet win our bill. Many letters to read and write daily.

Wrote to Prof. Horatio Wood today how and when I came first to use cold water to take off the palpitations. It was 12th July, 1888.

Three times today I had attacks of palpitation. Put them off every time instantly by drinking a tumbler full of ice-water rapidly. Ice-water no colder than that in general use for drinking wont do it.

April 18: Tuesday.

Have not much out of the daily routine to record. At Meeting on Sunday and palp. nearly all the time of it, but I sat still & soon as the “hand shaking on the upper benches began,” made my way home, got the ice-water and was well. Wrote and read as is my wont, and went to see, a social visit, an old patron, Jos. C. Righter. How sadly afflicted now in his 75th year. His wife, too, with “shaking palsy.” Felt glad I had gone. They seemed comforted by the visit of one who had [been] so long their physician & friend.

On Monday went to Norristown on business. This evening have had, in the morning too, very interesting letters from friends and from Senator Markley who says our bill has been re-committed and may be returned to the House with a favorable recommendation and then possibly adopted.

Palp. once yesterday and once today. Hiram & Georgie Yocom came yesterday, no, today.

April 19 and 20: Wednesday and Thursday.

Wednesday palp. twice, Thursday palp. once. In every case taken off at once by ice-water. What would I do without it?

April 21: Friday.

Palp. 3 times. Today Hannah Bacon, Mother's sister and Frannie Day, Susan Lukens and Tacie F. Cresson, my three daughters, were here and Georgie Yocom & her brother Hiram [were] also here. It was a quite pleasant visit to the girls (as I call them) and to myself. Bertha too would have been here no doubt if she had not been on a visit to her brother Joseph in Washington City. It is now only seven o'clock as I have had palp. 3 times and every time the water took it off.

A letter from Prof. H. C. Wood asking me to send the article which I wrote to him about some German physician on the "Exaggerated Contraction of the Heart" and "its treatment by Ice externally to the precordia."

I am daily, almost hourly, looking in the papers, or for a letter from Senator Markley about the success or defeat of my bill, before the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives.

April 22: Saturday.

9 P.M. Hiram & Georgie Yocom left here at 9:45 A.M. for home. At 6 P.M. Carrie Cresson and Charles Vanzant Foulke came to stay until tomorrow. Rec'd. a letter and a mached [sic] paper from Paschel [Alfred Paschall], Editor, Bucks Co. Intelligencer. I had asked him to write and publish something in favor of my "Bill," the Markley bill, so-called. The newspaper contained it. The letter was to thank me for the information that I had given him, concerning the Hospitals for the insane.

Three palps. Ice-water stopped it every time, soon as swallowed.

April 23: Sunday.

9 P.M. No palp. last night or today. Am taking the Elixir Quinine, Iron & 1/64 gr. Strychnia three times a day. I think it does me good.

Dr. E. M. Corson & son came to see me, & one patient today.

April 27: Thursday.

6:20 A.M. Since Sunday when I had palp. several times, I have had [it] only once or twice per day; one day none. Did a great deal of correspondence, re-wrote my autobiography for Dr. Stone's work and copied the correspondence with Rev'd. James A. M. La Fourette for Joseph.

Yesterday after supper palp. came. My stomach being full, I had just finished, the ice-water failed, though I drank at three times one after the other as soon as I found the water had not done it. In an hour I tried it again without avail. So then took 1/8 gr. morph. and went to bed. It was 6 1/2 P.M. when I was attacked and it continued until eleven and one quarter. Then it returned at 12 midnight. Water took it off; then came at 2 1/4 A.M. this morning. Water efficient. I slept none till after 3 A.M.

Rec'd. a long printed paper from Dr. Markley in the evening, after I had had palp. about an hour, sent out by the Danville Hospital Superintendent against our bill. And while the spell was on me, began a reply, but I wanted to make quotations from my printed "Plea" and could not find it, so gave it up. Very dull morning. Breakfast ready.

9 A.M. Just had a palp. Water quickly efficient.

April 29: Saturday.

9 A.M. From Thursday at 9 A.M. until the present time, in all 48 hours, I have had no palpitation & have not taken a drop of medicine, save last night after going to bed at 9 o'clock I took 3 tea-spoonsful of Celeste^v and one teaspoonful of the Quinine, Iron & Strychnia Elixir, as I had been feeling so very weak and could not lie quietly, seeming to need the tonic that I have been taking for weeks. I expect to leave for the City, to see the Senator, at 10 o'clock and am afraid that the palp. may come, but I must risk it. Well I started, Jimmy taking me in the carriage. I kept him waiting until the train came through fear that I might get palp., and if so would not go; but the cars came. I was very well and so waved my hand to Jimmy to go home. I had not gone more than a mile before palp. struck me. I could only sit still and bear it. When we reached the station or depot, 9th & Green, I drank two tumblers full of the ice-water, but it was not cold enough to stop it. I scarcely knew what to do, to stay there and take next car home or go to the Drexel Building to see Senator Markley. As I could go there, do what was necessary and return as soon as if I staid at the depot, I went. He was not in the City. Instantly I dropped down to the first floor from the seventh, by the Elevator., then a depressor, took the Street Cars and was soon at the depot, a wait there for 20 minutes, then a ride to Spring Mill, and from there in the carriage with Mary and Jimmy and at one o'clock and 10 minutes at home. The palp. still going on, though I had taken two more tumblers full of water at 9th & Green while waiting there. At home Tildy, the woman, brot me the real ice-water, temp. 34° F. I took it and in a moment I was well, myself again. Took dinner, felt well, then showed James, not Jimmy, where to do sodding and other matters; took an hours rest, &c., &c. How uncomfortable I had been all the time the palpitation was upon me, no one knows, and yet without pain or even great suffering.

A most unusual thing that from the time I took the train at Spring Mill at 10 o'clock until I returned to it at one o'clock, I did not see a single person either in the cars, in the depot, the Street Cars, or at the Ledger Building, whom I knew. No such thing ever happened with me before. It made me feel that were I to drop dead, no one could tell who I was, but no doubt many knew me.

April 30: Sunday.

Mrs. Carter here. Did not go to Meeting. Susan & Mrs. Carter came here after 10 A.M. and staid until noon, Edgar, Mrs. Carter's youngest son with them. He is aged about 20 years old and is head clerk in the Lee Mill [S. Lees] at Conshohocken.

May 1: Monday.

Today the great Columbus Fair opens at Chicago. It is an astonishing thing, for size and magnificence. I will not keep an account of it here from day to day, but will gather the Newspapers which have the accounts of it and keep them together, and perhaps have them bound. No palp., or rather only one.

May 2: Tuesday.

Went with Helen to see Rev'd. Fisher about a poor Lutheran woman belonging to his Barren Hill church, to get her into Lutheran Home. After dinner for two hours over-looked and aided a very deaf woman to clean the little room, ante-room to the School House, which is full of minerals. Worked hard directing her and placing and re-labeling them, only though in the little room, did not disturb the others. I got into profuse sweat and was pretty weary, so lay down an hour.

At 4 P.M. began to answer invitations to Woman's Med. College Commencement, to Medico Chirurgical Commencement, to meet by invitation Dr. Anna Lukens at her brother's, West Phila. and the meeting of the Alumni Assoc. of the University of Pa., an anniversary.

After this, finished correspondence by a letter to Son Joseph K., M.D. which brot me to supper time.

No palp. today. Visited Rev'd. [I] have told about it. Wrote a long letter to Rev'd. Charles W. Shaeffer about the poor woman as Rev'd. Fisher wished us to do.

May 3: Wednesday.

No palp for 3 days [had one on May 1]. On the last day of April & the previous night I had many spells of palpitation, and strange to say, I have had none since, now 9 P.M.

May 4: Thursday.

Am feeling well. For months, if after a nights rest I after rising would attempt to read or write before breakfast, the palp. would certainly come; or if in the night I should awaken and begin to think of any thing, it would certainly come. Now these past few days, without taking any medicine or any precautions, it has not occurred. It is a wonderfully strange trouble. It may be troublesome tonight.

Rec'd. a letter today from Rev'd. Charles W. Shaeffer of Germantown, formerly Pastor at Barren Hill. He wrote that on May 5th he would be 80 years old. "You are not so old as yet, but I hope you will even have more good years." Strange that he had forgotten, I am almost nine years older than he is.

Joseph C. Righter buried today.

May 6: Saturday.

No palp. but once and then it went off in a few minutes, until 4 o'clock this P.M. while sitting in Meeting at Plymouth listening to Isaac Wilson of Ontario, Canada, and after I got home the water took it off. So I was nearly five days without a spell, and yet taking no medicine.

Isaac Wilson's sermon was one of the best I have ever heard. It was simply that Religion consists not of words, phrases, faith, but in doing kindly, justly to all, relieving suffering, aiding the poor, comforting the afflicted, exercising kindness and love at home (especially), and in Society, &c., &c.

How blessed individuals and Society would be under such living! We should all try it. H.C.

Charges against Warren Hospital. A Senator a few days since arraigned that hospital management for dreadful & numerous cruelties and deaths which occurred there.

A Com. to investigate them was recommended and it was adopted by both Houses. But the Governor sharply, almost passionately, vetoed it. I have had many letters the past week, and have written many.

Dr. E. A. Wood and Dr. J. S. Shrawder have asked for facts as a basis for articles against Speaker Thompson and the Superintendents and in favor of my bill.

May 7: Sunday.

Read & wrote until 10 A.M., then went to Friends Meeting. Jay & Susan when I got home were waiting for me. Spent half an hour with us and then left for home. At 2 P.M. I took Mary in the carriage up to see Hannah Schultz, my sister Sarah's daughter, then to see my niece Mrs. George Lenzi and her two fine daughters. The oldest is well married and lives at Gwynedd. Then went to see another niece, Mary Roberts, sister to Hannah Schultz; then to daughter Tacie's and from there home. Arriving at home, found nephew Dr. E. M. Corson here, with his son Livingston.

May 12: Friday.

Have had no horse to drive this week, as the man has to have both of them to plough with, so have been at home fixing things, doing up what seemed to be needed to make the lot and home look comfortable and beautiful, and it is so in a remarkable degree. But there has been a dearth of letters. What does dearth mean? It is generally used in reference to a scarcity of fruits or grains, or to famines so called, but as one of its meanings is "scarcity," let it go as I have used it.

May 16: Tuesday.

Immediately after last writing four days ago, I had palpitation for several hours. Tried the ice-water several times without avail and had a troublous night. Had to rise so often. Yesterday I was all the forenoon and some of the afternoon with little Jimmy or James Jr. fixing the ice-house and other little matters. Was on my limbs all this time and on that account, when I laid on the lounge, my feet & legs cramped so badly that I could not lie at all, so it often is at night if I have unusual exercise the preceding day.

Have been at Norristown today, settling with John J. Corson who collects interest for me, \$322.10 coming to me; deposited it in the Savings Fund or Trust Co.

Rec'd. a letter from Judson Daland, M.D., Sec'y. of University Faculty, wishing me to influence our five Representatives and Senator to stand against any reduction of the appropriation asked for by the University. 5 P.M. Have just finished the letters (six) to them. Just as I finished the last letter, the one to Senator Markley, I was attacked by palp. Ice-water took it off at once.

Quite a rainy day.

May 17: Wednesday.

Very busy all day, or rather had the Jimmy father and Jimmy son sodding at the Norristown lots & so forth, all of it improving work. But as I began to take the Quinine, Iron & Strychnia at noon yesterday & have cont'd. it and feel greatly better today. Slept well last night. I yesterday had an article sent to me by nephew Consul-General Thomas Adamson, who has lost his place at Panama, Central America, after 31 ½ years service. I had it published in Norristown Herald.

May 18: Thursday.

This day has been spent in getting Frannie here from Spring Mill, entertaining her, making a brief visit to Helen Hovenden & Thomas, and in getting her back to the train. I have just returned from the Sp. Mill which station she left at 4 P.M.

May 19: Friday.

To Norristown about money matters. Did not get much that was due to me. Saw some friends. A beautiful day. In the afternoon staid at home and looked to having things cleaned up in the lawn.

Thomas Hovenden and another artist gave a call of a few minutes, as I happened to be at the road. Wrote letters, rec'd. letters, read newspapers, &c., &c. Am idling. There is a wonderful account, of wonderful news from the wonderful fair, in the wonderful city of Chicago. Is that illiteration [alliteration] enough for one page?

May 20: Saturday.

Up before sunrise to see the sunrise. A beautiful morning. Am expecting to go to the City today. Wrote a long letter to son Joseph yesterday morning, and just as I was finishing it, the thought struck me that it was a trifling affair, so instantly I threw it into the fire.

May 21: Sunday.

Have been at home all day. Jay & Susan called as they went from Meeting. Jay was almost like times before he was sick. Have completed my additions to my autobiography for Dr. Stone.

Have made additions to my pamphlet on "The Recognition of Women Physicians" by the profession, and on my efforts to have women physicians for the women, or rather female Insane. Have read Friends Intelligencer from end to end.

May 25: Thursday.

Since First-day things have worked on as usual with me. I have had only one hard spell of palp. which lasted me an hour or two while from home, but yielded to the ice-water at home.

Chicago Fair proceedings occupy much of all the newspapers. Sunday opening (over which there has been a "contest" between those who wish it and those who do not, the latter being the Clergy and Sunday-school-people) will take place next Sunday, says the paper of this evening.

The Briggs' Heresy case is now on trial, in the Presbyterian Assembly, and the newspapers keep us informed. That this prosecution of Dr. Briggs will increase the number of people holding such views is as certain as that any reform has taken place during the last hundred years. If the Presbyterian old Hell Fire Believers wished to disgust people with their doctrines, they could have found no better way to effect it.

May 29: Monday.

Yesterday the Fair grounds were opened and 120,000 visitors were upon them it is said by the papers of today.

During the last few days I have done much towards getting my Scarlet Fever Papers together for publication, if I should determine on doing so. Have also done many

other things of some use, I hope.

How lovely the county now is. Every thing so luxuriant. And what a splendid region this is. I look on it admiringly from every hill-top as I ride from here to Norristown and Conshohocken several times a week.

May 30: Tuesday.

6 A.M. Decoration Day When the Rebellion (Civil War, but as uncivil as possible) began, I was too old to be taken, and yet that was in 1861, thirty two years ago last April. How little thought I then had, suffering from palpitation as I did, that I would still be living here today. Great preparations have been made for celebrating this day, and I had intended to take Mary with me in the carriage down to Laurel Hill to see our graves, but the woman, Tildy" or "Tillie" is going to the City to see her son and her friends and Mary and self can't both leave home. So I will take a ride to Edge Hill and will write more when I shall have returned.

Taking Jimmy with me, we drove to Edge-Hill-village. Almost the whole of last night I was uneasy because a woman who had besought me to treat her 13 year old daughter for Chorea had sent for more of the Fld. Ext. Cimicifuga Racemosa for which I have become famous for curing such cases, and I feared she would give so much as to do injury, though it is in no way poisonous. I found she [was] all right, in fact improved. She takes 2 tea-spoonsful 4 times a day, besides some infusion. Much more than I have ever found necessary. I was, though, much relieved and came home with a lighter heart. I don't want to prescribe at all.

May 31: Wednesday.

Up at 5 A.M. as usual. Busy all day. In afternoon attended the Historical Society meeting in the Court House room given to us. Afterwards went to see Mrs. Cadwalader Evans, one of the women visitors to the Jail, Alms-House and Hospital for The Insane, whom I got the B. P. Charities to appoint "official visitor" to these places years ago.

June 1: Thursday.

Had palpitation yesterday and last night. It came when I was in bed at 11 o'clock. Then I took it off at once by use of ice-water, as I did too yesterday. After I had been in bed less than half an hour, palp. struck me again. Again the water stopped it. Then I went to bed again and slept pretty well, but rising about every hour to urinate, and at 4 A.M. was again attacked. Again the water was effective, a large tumbler full rapidly drunk was needed, or at least used. I had not taken but one 24th of a grain of sulphate [morph.] for the two days before, with one teaspoonful of the Elixir of Quinine, Iron and Strychnia (1/60). Since breakfast I took another spell of palp. about 9 A.M. Water checked it and I, after it was over, took 1/12 gr. morph. sulph. and one teaspoonful of the Elixir. It is now after dinner, which here means after 12 o'clock, not six in the evening, now the dinner hour *avec le nouveau riche*, and I am feeling well than for a few days, pretty well indeed.

"How to have good, fine water," a paper written by me for the Germantown Telegraph is published, and the Editor sent me six copies, which have reached me. I hope it will be useful.

June 2: Friday.

Had many letters to write this morning in relation to obtaining from the Governors of States information about their Hospitals for the female insane and of physicians for them whether women or men. Also about getting Dr. Dewees of Kansas elected Associate Fellow of the College of Physicians and also associate membership in Phila. Obstetrical Society.

This P.M. went with Thos. and Helen & an artist friend of theirs to see the great Hospital for the Insane at Norristown, 1000 patients of each sex. Just before six P.M. reached home.

June 3: Saturday.

Palp. at one o'clock last night. Ice water arrested it at once. Up at 5 A.M.

9 P.M. Have had palp. twice today. Ice-water efficient. Bertha came here bringing daughter Dorothea with her at 4:22 from Phila., reached here at 5:20 P.M. Son Thomas came in the evening.

A failure, sad one. Clement Biddle, a Ministry Friend, has failed for \$250,000. Every thing has been sold, & he has rented the house formerly viewed by himself and occupied by his Coachman. He is one who had done so much for the Plymouth Friends School, a fine man. I have been quite busy today, much of the time putting in order my numerous documents, written by me, Journals, &c., &c. and marking the packages, great & small, so that I may find a needed book or paper readily. When I look over my different books, medical and others, it seems as though I had been profuse in buying and subscribing for them and for pamphlets, and yet it is not so. One engaged in medicine, studying and practicing for 60 years, accumulates a number of books & Journals necessarily and almost without perceiving it. I look at them now and at my minerals and wonder what will be done with them after I have been laid away.

June 5: Monday.

9 P.M. It has been a fearfully hot day. (Sunday was quite a pleasant temperature). Yesterday, Sunday, Bertha & Dorothea were here, and Helen and Mrs. Danielson, an artist just returned from Europe after five or six years sojourn, and Mr. Sears, another artist, were here, rather the first four. Mr. Sears, Mr. Whiting from Springfield, Mass. & daughter and Dr. Bennett were at Helen's & we went there.

June 6: Tuesday.

6 A.M. Therm. 76° F. In looking in the office for a box, I came across one stuffed full of letters from Correspondents. On top of a pack I saw one marked letter to Alan Wood Esq., Hon. Alan Wood, written in 1876, so have concluded to pin it here.

Maple Hill, Aug. 31, 1876

Hon. Alan Wood.

My Dear Friend

Your second handsome gift of books has been received from Jay-Wood Lukens. These are no common works.

These discoverers in our great Western territories are declared by the great Huxley to speak with unmistakable voice of those wonderful evolutions which have brought us to our present condition as human beings. In his recent speech at Buffalo he said: "I have studied the collection gathered by Prof. Marsh, at New Haven. There is none like it in Europe, not only in extent of time covered, but by reason of its bearing on the problem of evolution; whereas, before this collection was made, evolution was a matter of speculative reasoning, and is now a matter of fact and history, as much so as the monuments of Egypt. In that collection are the facts of the succession of forms and the history of their evolution. All that remains to be asked is how, and that is a subordinate question." Now in these volumes which you have so kindly sent me are not only the histories of the fossil remains of the animals which lived countless ages before the advent of man, and are now found in Prof. Marsh's collection, but also those in the collection of Profs. Leidy, Cope & Hayden. And my interest in those discoveries, or rather in those histories, is somewhat heightened from the fact that my son, during his residence at Fort Bridger, explored that wild region of Country and discovered and presented to all the gentlemen above named some of their most valuable specimens of extinct animals. These services have been recognized by them, in their histories, in the most complimentary and decided manner. Joseph and his brother-in-law, Dr. Carter, sent specimens of the remains of a great many extinct animals not before known, and called the attention of the Scientists to that locality, so rich in the "evidences of evolution."

Your gift has been, as you will perceive, one of great appropriateness & of exceeding value to me.

I thank you kindly for your remembrance of me, and for your generous gift.

Accept for yourself and your family my kindest regards and heartiest thanks.

Very respectfully
Hiram Corson

June 7: Wednesday.

Read only the Press today. Man sick, had to be about. The Briggs case is producing the expected effect. The Ministers are inclining rapidly to the view that Religious opinions must keep pace with evolutions in all other great subjects of thought, and the Higher Criticism scarcely heard of two years ago seems now to be such a common sense matter that we do not like to give it up. And, now, what is it. Simply this: To test the truthfulness of the Bible by such evidence only as would pass in a Court of Justice. Thus tested, where will Jonas' story be? Where Daniel & the Lions? Still in the pen, I presume. Where the Hogs? Still running down to the sea? Where Lazarus?

Breakfast is ready.

June 9: Friday.

These two days my farmer has been ill with a small carbuncle, not able to work. So I have been riding twice to Norristown & once to Conshohocken on business and doing many needed things at home. Busy! Busy as Briggs & his aids or the Sunday opening people at the Fair. The Fair was opened last Sunday and the receipts almost as much as in the other six days of the week altogether. That settles it.

Both of these cases, Briggs & the Fair show that "the world do move," as the Color'd Divine said long ago.

Have had replies from the Governors to my questions in relation to women physicians in their State Hospitals for their insane female-poor.

June 10: Saturday.

6 P.M. An awful crash. The Army Building in Washington, formerly Ford's Theatre, fell while hundreds of clerks and others were in it. Twenty-two persons were killed, and about fifty fearfully injured. It was occupied as the Pension Building and more than 400 clerks and others were in it.

It has been considered unsafe for years. Oh! what fearful, unavailable sorrow has come to scores of families. Who shall we allow petty matters to vex and irritate us? I expect a letter about it from Joseph soon.

June 12: Monday.

The papers are teeming with accounts of the deaths and injuries caused by the fall of the great building.

Busy today with money matters in Norristown and Conshohocken. Took Mary's \$300 and 23 Dols. 40 cts. interest out of the Montg'y. Trust Co. where she was getting only 3 per cent for it and gave her the \$23.40 and my note for \$300 at 5 ½ per cent, and invested the \$300 and \$300 more of my own in a Mortgage of \$600 at 5 ½ per cent.

June 14: Wednesday.

Yesterday I went to Norristown to get my Kansas Bond from my vault-box in Montgomery Bank. Was home by 11 A.M. Then went to Jos. Coulston with Dr. G. N. Highley to turn over Mrs. Coulston's care of pneumonia affective to him, so that I need have no care of it.

At 1:30 P.M. took the Reading Train to Phila., went to "Provident Life and Trust Co., corner 4th & Chestnut, to see about Follen's lots; afterwards to 605 Chestnut St. to "Lombard Investment Co. to leave my Bond for \$500 and interest due and give me a new Bond for \$450. Closing my business with the Lombard Company, I walked up 6th St. to Market; took the Cable Cars to Pa. depot and got to the gate just as it opened to let Norristown passengers in. Reached Spring [Mill] at 4 P.M., took my carriage at John Righter's, where I had left it with the man, and was soon home. Had supper at 6. Went to bed at 9 P.M.

Now begins today's history. Had palpitation 4 times between midnight & 6 A.M. today. Every time rose, took tumbler of ice-water and instant[ly] stopped it. Slept pretty well between the attacks. Before breakfast at 7, took one teaspoonful of the Elixir of Quinine, Iron, and Strychnia 1/60, neglected taking it yesterday, 3 times as I should

have done. After breakfast had a slight vertigo, for only a few seconds, at 8 ½ A.M., while looking at two beautiful strange birds about the size of blue birds, which were watching the efforts of a young one to fly, and encouraging it to do so from a bush within a few feet of me,. As I stood on the piazza in front of the dining room, I felt a stronger vertigo, which lasted longer than the former one, and was quite decided, but it was though perhaps less than half a minute. No one was near me and I soon felt as well as before. But as two men but little more than half my age fell dead in Norristown within a week and without a moment's warning, I, not liking to frighten Mary and being anxious that some one should know it, told our woman about it. Then sat down & wrote all this. And just as I now write, the clock strikes 9 o'clock and I must [be] off to the P. Office and then to Spring Mill to bring Frannie who will be due there by the train at 10:39 A.M. She comes to spend the day.

June 15: Thursday.

Did a good many things and read many pages of Smiles' Self Help. What a valuable book to arouse the reader to perseverance, courage, industry and ambition to be of use in the world.

June 16: Friday.

Went to Norristown to do needed things. What a bustle in those streets where fifty years ago quietness reigned! Such a busying to and fro. The newspapers filled with embezzlements, murders, suicides, elopements, failures in business; the Briggs Case, the Crash and deaths at Washington, and above all the wonders of the "World's Fair Exposition." Exposition! Is that the proper word? The best for the purpose?

On the next page begins a condensed account, or summery, of the palpitations.

Palpitations of the Heart

1892, July 1st. For several months I have said but little of my palpitations as they have occurred so often that I thought it useless to put them all down. They have for several months been daily or nearly so, and for the past two months often twice or even 3 times in 24 hours. (My Diary is now only at page 40. Hereafter I will record palps. here.)

The effects of cold water.

A tumbler full of ice-water drank [sic] rapidly puts it off at once. I do not see how I could get along were it not for this remedy. When the heart is pounding away at only 53 beats per minute it springs quick as lightning to a gait of 135 per minute, and as soon as I rapidly swallow a tumbler full of ice-water, very cold, it suddenly drops to its former gait, or to 60 per minute, and is directly at 53 again and I as well as if nothing had occurred. But should it happen that I could not get the iced-water for an hour or half a dozen hours, it would go on at the rate of 135 per minute all the time.

The history of this trouble which began 45 years ago when I was 37 years old is interesting and is recorded in another loose paper written ten or twenty years since.

The first occurred by stepping off of a new piazza at Isaac Garretson's, from a jerk caused by the step being about twice as deep as a common step, so that I got a sudden jerk, which instantly produced the palpitation. I at once went into the house and lay down on my left side. At once it stopped, and I was well. In less than a month, I was attacked again while standing and looking at the evolutions of a "Troop of Horse," in

Hitner's yard at "Marble Hall." Again lying on my left side stopped it. It continued to recur, gradually growing more frequent. Once in coming from Harrisburgh [sic] with brother George, where we had been to a Temperance Convention, I got it this side of Lancaster and as I could not lie down, had it for nine miles, when I got out at Oakland in Chester Co. and went up to the bed, lay down on my left side and instantly I was well. But the train had gone on and it was snowing fiercely, so we had to hire a team to go three miles across the hills to where we could intercept the West-Chester train. We succeeded in this and got home very well. More and more frequent they came and finally the recumbent posture was ineffectual as a remedy. Then "Hot Coffee" proved efficient for a considerable time on some occasions. It finally failed, and I went on practicing for years bearing it from 8 to 16 hours generally. Was often struck by it when out on the road in the carriage, & not infrequently when attending cases of midwifery. At one time cold water stopped it frequently, but finally failed; it was not iced water, so it went on year after year, I bearing it without an attempt to arrest it, as opium, Digitalis, Ammonia & other medicines did no good. Some years ago I was appointed with two others to go to Springfield, Illinois, to a Cattle Convention to see what could be done to save cattle from Rinderpest. Beyond Indianapolis I got palp. and had it for many miles. So again on our return by way of Chicago.

And [had palp.] just before Mr. McKim's (the abolitionist) he sent for me to see him at Orange, New Jersey, in Llewellyn Park. While there I got it, had it two hours. Went to the horse railway station in the carriage, then in street cars to Newark, then by rail to Phila, had to wait at 16th St. 1.45 minutes in the room facing the afternoon sun with no back or side windows and only one in front. Oh! it was a trying time; then came home by R. Road to Spring Mill, then in a carriage home; then had it all night till 7 A.M. next day, in all 22 hours. It was a severe suffering, but once off, I was soon all right. Prior to that, had never had it more than 16 hours at one time, but hundreds of times from 6 or 8 to 16 hours.

1889, Feb. A new kind of Heart Trouble.

See its beginning and History on p. 305 and on from that page to 312. On January 31st (see page 312), I had no attack of palpitation though up to the advent of the new kind of trouble, it came so often. While the new trouble had possession of me, the palpitations did not appear at all. The new trouble went on, at night as well as day. On 22nd of February a peculiar symptom appeared. The spell had been very often, night & day, but on the 22nd of Feb., though I had tried various medicines without effect, there were three spells, one at 11 P.M., one at midnight, one at 3 A.M. Took morph. & Tct. Gentian to prevent more. The med [was] useless. One came at 3 o'clock A.M.. Then I took another dose of 1/8 gr. morph. and [1 ½ oz.] tinct. gentian, when I slept till 6 ½ A.M. This spell was peculiar in one symptom never noticed before. I was on my back, when I felt the pain, not as usual in the shoulder at first, but in the breast to the right of the sternum and near to it. I concluded to lie still and observe closely. In a minute it spread over that part of the chest generally affected, and after it, the heart had beaten a hundred times and was regular and full. It suddenly dropped into a slow rate of 30 beats per minute and made 30 beats of that kind. So slow they were and so uncomfortable I was that my desire to rise was almost irresistible, but I did not and when it had struck the 30th beat, it at once without any irregularity as generally occurs, resumed its natural beats and the pains gradually passed away from my breast & side.

But there was in this spell a new symptom. As it was beating in the slow way of 30 per minute, every beat was responded to by a distinct pulsation, sensible to my ear, in the Carotid artery of the right side just behind the angle of the jaw. When the slow beats ceased, this pulsation was felt no more. I had 3 more spells before midnight on the 22nd; on the 23rd had two spells aborted, one by Brom. Caffeine, I think. See page 325, No. 8 Diary. During the day of Saturday had no spell.

Sunday morning Feb. 24/89 five spells in the previous night between 10 P.M. and this morning at 5 o'clock. It is too much work for me to write all the account at 326-7 of pages in No. 8 diary.

The spells subsided and the long fits of sneezing and the palpitations recur again. These are good signs that the new form of spells are over. The new Heart-trouble began Jan. 27th and continued until May 17th, 4 months less ten days. In March I began to take Tinct. Digitalis, about 75 drops a day, took it for several days and thought it did me some good. Also took Calasaya [Calisaya] Bark and Iron; not much good.

At page 318 of the 1889 and 88 book I find that I stopped the old palpitation on Feb. 14th by ice water. This is the first entry that I have by stopping it with ice-water. Years ago I stopped it frequently by a glass of Cistern or well water if cold, and I now think it not unlikely that when it failed and I quit using it, that if I had then resorted to iced water, it likely would have proved as effectual as it has been doing from the time I began it, after the new form of trouble ceased on or about the 17th of May.

In this new trouble Morph. Sulph. had no good effect in preventing the recurrence. On my second visit to Dr. H. C. Wood, he recommended that I take ¼ drop Nitro-glycerin 3 times a day. It seemed a trifling dose, but he said it was enough to begin with. I began but soon increased so that in two or three weeks, I took a whole one and finally through April took three drops 3 times a day by advice of my former student Dr. Anna Lukens, then practicing in New York. This was to prevent its recurrence, & she as well as Dr. Charles H. Thomas of Phila. recommended me to take when the spell was on me in order to take it off, Nitrite Amyl, three drops put on a handkerchief and then quickly inhale it through nose & mouth by holding the wetted part to them. This proved to be a great comfort, as the moment I felt the giddiness caused by the medicine, affected me in the brain in the front part of head, it would pass off. This as well as the doses of nitro-glycerin was considered by some physicians to be quite dangerous, but I used [it] continuously for months. Wyethe, the Phila. druggist had three drops enclosed in thin glass; they were called Pearls. These I had them in my pocket whenever I rode out, so that when a spell came I could put one in my hand-kerchief and crush it, and apply it. It succeeded admirably and I continued it as long as the spells came. When at home I generally used the liquid.

The nitro-glycerin really never seemed to me to do good, but Dr. Thomas said that perhaps the spells were arrested as soon as my system was saturated with it.

At page 357, Book 1888-1889, I have this note on Sunday, May 12th: I have taken Nitro-glycerin steadily for weeks 4 or 5 times a day, increasing from ½ a drop to 2 drops at last and yet, no relief. Now I will quit it. In another note there I say, quit it and today, May 17, I can say that since the 12th of May when I quit it until today, have had no spells. Am only taking 1/60 grain of Strychnia 3 times a day and have had no spell. Since last Sunday, 5 days ago, I have been free from heart trouble and am pretty well. How strange!! Relief from the spells not due to Strychnia.

All the above has been copied from the account in the 1888-9 book in the back part. From this time, July 4th, 1892, I will record my heart troubles daily here, instead of mixing it up with other daily matters. Tuesday July 5th & Wednesday 6th [1892] three attacks each day, put off instantly by the ice-water. Thursday, July 7th, no attack. Friday & Saturday had several spells that were put off at once by the water. July 10, 11, 12, 13, one every day, all but one went off without the water being used in a few minutes. Have been [taking] during this time about the 1/8th of a grain of morph. sulph. daily. An attack this morning at 7 o'clock. Ice-water stopped it. Twice today, water stopped it both times on the instant

Thursday, Aug. 25th [1892]. Since last writing, I have had palpitation every day with the rarest exceptions. But more generally two or three times daily, one 24 hours six times. Every time the ice-water, one large tumbler full stopped it at once.

Sometimes I have not been able to get the water when riding in the carriage about the country, or on my way to Norristown or from there. On all these occasions it would hammer away till I would get the water. On August 3rd had six attacks in 8 hours, one lasted half an hour before I could get ice-water.

Sunday 7th August, 7 palpitations. Sunday 28th, bed-time, 9 P.M. Have had palps every day since last writing, often three or more times in 24 hours. Saturday night [27th] had three attacks. Yesterday [Saturday] in the day-time not one, last night three from ten P.M. to 3 A.M. today. In every case the cold water took it off as soon as drank [sic].

September 1st, '92. Have palp. every day now and generally twice at night, three times last night. The water still promptly efficient.

Sep. 20th [1892] Ever since last writing I have had the palps. daily generally, the exceptions were rare, and too many nights. The nights that I did not have any were rare.

Sep. 27th. Have had them about twice every 24 hours since last writing. Yesterday the 26th, I had one in the night before I got up, one at 4 1/2 P.M. when half way home from Tacie's. Water at 36° took it off as soon as I got it at home. Then I had them at 7 at 8, 9, 9:40, 10:40. Ice water took all these off at once. Then at 10:50, only ten minutes after the last, it came again & a whole pint of ice-water, not being quite cold enough, did not take it off, so I lay down on my left side and let it go on, which it did till 3:05, then went off but came again at 3:35 when I put it off again. During all the time, I had it on from 10:50 to 3:05 A.M. After that had it at 3:35, then no more until morning, but that I had such an urgent desire to urinate that I had to rise at 4:20, 4:37, 5:00, 5:30, 6:10, then began to dress myself and had to urinate again at 6:20. Now at 8 A.M. on 27th) have not had it, the palp., since 3:35.

And during the night I passed 58 ounces of limpid, almost inodorous urine by actual measurement. But I am not feeling the weakness that beset me last week. Even after such a poor night, I feel strong & well, with good appetite for my breakfast 2 hours ago. Now it is 9 A.M.

The Great Changes on Sep. 29/92.

April 1st, 1893. Since last writing here in 1892, I had not been without one or more attacks scarcely one day, but the cold, or rather iced water took them off at once, if I could get it quickly. If not, they generally cont'd. for hours or until I could get it. So it went on all winter. This spring, I have tried about 1/16 or 1/12 of sulph. morph. in the afternoon about 4 P.M. with good effect in enabling me to rest. I tried Tct. Digitalis 10

drops 3 times a day (before each meal one teaspoonful of a sol. of sulph. morph. $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. to water one ounce), but it annoyed me so by causing an irresistible desire to urinate every half hour or so, that I had to abandon it.

The Great Change. The weariness gone.

After the night spoken of on last page, night of Sep. 27 & 28 (see details at page 66 and on to Oct. 4th, page 70) when I passed so troubled a night, having the palp. 8 times in the brief space of 8 hours & 35 minutes.

After that night when I had 8 attacks and passed so much urine, 58 oz, I expected to feel an increased amount of weakness that had beset me so long, but as soon as I threw my legs out of bed, I felt that I was changed, p. 70, and on Oct. 4th on same page I wrote in reference to my condition, "It has now been six days and my feelings are first rate."

June 16: Friday, Continued.

Since the above was written, the palpitations have cont'd., scarcely missing a single day but at once stopped by a tumbler, often less, of ice-water rapidly swallowed, but when the attack occurred while I was riding about and where I had no access to it, it would continue its rapid beats until I could get the water. In looking back through my diary, I find that on page 196 I had gone to Phila., the attack occurred just after the train left Spring Mill. It was on April 29th and the company had not yet begun to have ice-water in the cars. So I had it all the way down, then went to Drexel Building to see Senator Markley about my bill, came back to the train then on to Spring Mill. No ice-water then, on home and it still on me. It was on me three hours. Soon as I got the ice-water at home, I was well again. It was, though, a pretty hard pull on me during these three hours. Though I never had had an unpleasant feeling when going up and down seven stories in the Drexel Elevator, yet today it affected me quite markedly. It seemed as though my head felt very light. I have since heard that many persons are badly effected by it.

As happened with me on this trip, the palp. continuing when I could not get the water, so it has happened on all other occasions when deprived of it.

From May 1st until May 6th the latter included (5 days), I had no attack. This was an unusual respite; the day preceding May 1st and the previous night, I had had many spells, so many as to quite dishearten me, for I had been taken an Elixir of Quinine 2 grs., Precipitant Oxd. Iron 2 grs. and sulph. Strychnia $\frac{1}{60}$ of a grain 3 times daily for weeks. When I rose that morning (May 1st) I concluded the medicine had failed me and I resolved to take my chance without it. Strange to say, it then did not occur at all for five days. How strange! Then it came again and cont'd. on its usual way once or twice a day. On June 14th had 4 spells between midnight & 6 A.M.

Thus far the accounts of palps. are from this diary. Now begins the next.
June 17: Saturday.

Last night had one spell at one this morning, another at four A.M. Both caused I think by thinking of Jim Cresson and his father, both being out of business, and the consequences to the family and the expense to me, and how it is to end.

June 20: Tuesday.

6 P.M. Thermometer now 92° F., at 2 P.M. it was 96° F. I took daughter Frannie Yocom to Norristown with me at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock, drew money from the Bank to pay

my work-people and did several matters of business besides buying this book. Am today 88 years, 8 mo. and 12 days old. Will I live to fill this book? No one can tell. It seems queer to me that I must give way in a very few years at the most. Alan was the oldest Corson I have ever known. He was in his 95th year. If I live till Oct. 8th, I will be in my 90th and now, though apparently in perfect health, I know that I must give way so soon. I have enjoyment in living, but feel now that my time is very short and though numerous things seem to demand attention, I have not the ability for continuous labor, mental, for hours, and therefore, they are postponed for a more convenient season. I have lived longer than any of my friends have. Indeed there is scarcely one alive that was at school with me, indeed not one. People are not aware that the old have enjoyment in life as the middle aged have, and yet, when in easy circumstances financially and no outside adverse circumstances to cause them sorrow, very few but would willingly remain here a little longer among the scenes so hallowed to them by so long and pleasant intercourse, such pleasing memories. Gray has beautifully expressed this thought in his "Elegy written in a Country Church yard."

- 1) For who' to dumb Forgetfulness a Prey
- 2) This pleasing anxious Being e'er resigned,
- 3) Left the warm Precincts of the cheerful Day,
- 4) Nor cast one longing, lingering Look behind?

Fear of what may come after Death is not with me at all. I have no belief in the creed of the Evangelical Church people. The sensible belief of Friends, who regard right living, regardless of faith in creeds, suits me well. Enough Preface.

June 21: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Lizzie Borden acquitted. The news came to us this morning through the Press. But it does not alter my opinion. I believe that she did murder her step-mother and her own father, and this horrible murder was done in their own home, in the middle of the forenoon, when the hired girl was about and no other person, but neighbors were close by. Had I been a juror I would not have signed such a verdict, even had all the eleven done it. It was expected that they would disagree & give such a verdict. She leaves the jail, plump as when she entered it almost a year ago, and after a trial of two weeks, the most difficult to bear that I have ever known, and now she is gay and happy, apparently.

June 22: Thursday.

Nothing special to note.

June 23: Friday.

A rainy morning after several days of good hay making weather. Finished reading "George Fox Interpreted," by my friend Thomas Ellwood Longshore, quite early this morning. He is a Preacher among "Hicksite Friends," but from his advanced views, his disbelief in the old Scripture romances, his opposition to the too general belief in the personality of the so-called God, and his conviction to a strict conformity in our works with the monitions of the good spirit with in us as a guide to right doing, is all that is needed to our "being saved" from Sin. He is not in good standing with the Friends who

cannot rid themselves of the belief that two great powers, the God and the Devil, are watching us, one to save, the other to destroy. His belief is that all of us are endowed with the good spirit, which manifests its existence by every good act that we perform, and that as we cultivate this good spirit, this God within us, all evil inclinations will be lessened and we become more & more benefactors to man, and in doing so are "serving the Lord," to use a common phrase.

June 24: Saturday.

9 P.M. Cut one field of 5 acres of grass and got the hay in the barn without a drop of rain, and yesterday cut the two acres of clover at, or in the "Godfrey Lot," so named because gotten from a man named Godfrey---- forgot his last name.

My man helped Mr. Hovenden's man to get in the hay from four acres also. These things are scarcely worth mentioning, but for the fact that I suggested this mode of getting our hay and grain harvest in, because his farmer and mine working separately could not do the work and hiring is very costly, \$1.50 per Day. Working together, aiding each other, they can gather the crops with almost no expense.

All our getting in the hay of four acres and cutting another four only cost me \$1.25 for the hire of a young fellow, and getting in four acres for Mr. H. did not cost him anything as for his man and boy's help, my man and boy aided them. His hiring two men for 3 days would have cost about \$9.00, so mine also. Because we could not put it in the barn without having in all three persons each. By combining our own hired forces, each having a man and boy, we had, to use the phraseology of the day, "an available team."

Some persons might object to this economy as scarcely justifiable, preventing poor men from getting work. Not so, "hands" are scarce, and where you only want them a day or two at a time and on special occasions, hardly to be had at all, and because you specially need to have them or have your crops spoiled, they raise the wages to two or two & half a day. Besides as in such small farms as we have, they will not quit other work to get only a day with us now and then. My object in this economy is usually to save the money so as to have it to aid those who are looking to me for help, and to house my crops without trouble and loss.

June 25: Sunday.

Have been at home all day save while taking a ride of a mile and returning, to arrange with a mason about repairing my Norristown Barn on the lot brother William so long owned. Our religionists would regard this as a desecration of the Sabbath-day. They are the victims of Superstition, worshippers of old Idols, demons, the Gods of Idol worshippers and of all men the most relentless persecutors of their fellow men.

I have today read 110 pages of Thomas Ellwood Longshore's "Higher Criticism in Theology and Religion." What an interesting history of the gradual growth of our Christianity out of the doctrines and heathen worship of an ignorant and barbarous age, and even as Christianity filled with recurrence for Demons and Gods of olden and ignorant times. The author has traced the rise of what we call Christianity from its early traditional history and shows how by Priests, for their selfish purposes, have awed the masses with a belief in miracles and future, eternal punishment. It is a most instructive book and justifies me in saying in one of my published medical papers years ago, that

“Christianity with the words of Peace and Love upon her lips has come down to us through almost nineteen centuries, trampling on heaps of slain and trailing her garments in Blood.”

I am a Hicksite Quaker of the purist blood (not a member of Meeting though) and most advanced views.

June 28: Wednesday.

Morning, 6 o'clock. Have been up an hour. Thus far this week I have been very busy with many matters and especially looking after my tenants, repairing their houses, &c., &c.

The Higher Criticism by Friend Longshore interests me greatly because of the information of old-time matters, the rise of certain views and traditions now regarded as essential to the “saving of souls,” but which, if his well stated logical deductions from what biblical scholars have considered well established truths are true, are the merest bombast. The author measures all Bible narratives of miracles and the feats of Samson, Daniel, the three brothers in the furnace, Jonah in the belly of the fish and the Devils in the swine, and all other stories, now so utterly demolished by science and natural laws, which are invariable and have been so from the beginning of time, as worthy of consideration save that they should be driven from the minds of the priesthood, no longer to be agents to frighten us into obedience to them. But I am hardly fit to speak advisedly of the author's views. I may misrepresent him.

I want to go with James Pierce, Carpenter, to Norristown at 6 ½ A.M. so must be off to get back as daughters Susan & Frannie are to be here to spend the day.

Every day I have palp. once or twice; had it night before last, yesterday and today. Water stopped it at once. Have one or two every 24 hours, not at night so frequently as months ago. The ice water instantly effectual in stopping the palpitations at once, and I am not now taking any medicine. For some weeks I had taken sulph. Quinine, Iron & Strychnia 1/64, an Elixir teaspoonful 3 times a day, and thought it did me good, but I seem to do as well without it.

June 30: Friday.

7 A.M. Have not taken a drop of medicine of any kind for two days, as I have wished to see whether it was useful in preventing attacks of palp. Yesterday I had it three times before I went to bed, all in the afternoon. At midnight last night had it, also at one A.M., also at 3 & just now. So I am now about to take two teaspoonsful of the sulphate morph. solution, both together are only 1/12th of a grain.

Once in the night I had to drink three times very largely of the iced water, because it was not cold enough, then went to bed and in ten minutes more it went off.

9 P.M. Have been feeling the less than ¼ gr. sulph. morph. which I took last night pretty strongly, but have only had one spell today and that was put off very readily & quickly.

July 1: Saturday.

5 P.M. I slept pretty well last night without taking anything. Went to Norristown this morning to see the brick-layers building up the end of the stable which we had to take down. Did a number of other little matters. Home by noon.

After dinner went on business to Conshohocken. Had Mary with me. Coming home I stopped at Spring Mill and was weighed. Dressed in summer clothes I weighed 127 ½ pounds. Two years ago with thick clothes on I only reached 133. For nearly all my adult life I only weighed 135 pounds in summer and 145 pds. in winter. Though on one occasion I reached, the weigher said, 162. But I attributed that to his weighing me by the scales they sold by, for I found on another occasion that there were several pounds difference between those scales and the one they bought by.

July 4: Tuesday.

I have had palps. very often for several days, though taking the Tonic, Iron, Quinine & Strychnia regularly 3 times a day.

5 ½ A.M. Therm. 62° F. Delightful morning. Have had much palp. during the past four days. Three times last night & two the night before., twice yesterday. Water effectual every time. The need to take such heavy drinks of ice water so often is, I fear, having a bad effect on my stomach. But the being awake every hour through the night and the delay in getting asleep again leaves me but brief times for sleep. If I do not be benefited by the present treatment, the tonic 3 times daily with between an 1/8 and ¼ gr. of morph. in the 24 hours, I will return to the Digitalis which I have not used for many months.

8 A. M. There are great parades and Bicycle “meets” and exhibitions of various kinds to be seen today. What is remarkable, unheard of in all my life before, is the fact that not a “cracker” have I heard this morning. Is there a law forbidding the explosion of “fire works” and I not cognizant of it? My man and boy are away to see the parade in Conshohocken and our female “help” away to Girard College to take her son “to see the sights.” So my daughter Mary, who is scarcely able to walk, and myself are here alone, save that “Mame” Cunningham, Mary’s assistant, has come to stay with us today. Time was when I enjoyed Temperance and Abolition meetings on the 4th of July, but now I desire only quiet at home. My mind is filled with memories of times long since passed, when our family was yet unbroken, but now how scattered! How many of the dear ones who made up the circle have dropped away from it, never to return!! How sad this subject! Will I ever see another Fourth?

6 P.M. All the afternoon I have been engaged in reading and writing, mostly the latter. I hear the guns and crackers going off now.

I was in error this morning about there being no noise of “fire works.” I am pretty deaf and did not hear them. There is an unusual amount of powder being burnt.

The day with Mary and myself has been very quiet. I have written to three doctors & to daughter Susan.

Have not had palp. today since morning.

A few years ago a family came to Barren Hill from Lancaster County. I was called to see the sick wife. Found them very poor, but gentle folks. The husband was a graduated physician. I took them some potatoes and gave them three dollars and attended them “off and on” for two or three years, indeed always since when I could not turn them over to some one else. I saw that the daughter then only about 7 or 8 years was very “smart,” intellectual, but was kept at home nearly the whole time. I urged them most persistently to keep her at school. Finally she entered the B. Hill school, now a graded one, and she told me yesterday, she had not missed one day in three years. The

father sells books, &c., &c. The mother is daughter of a Lancaster Co. doctor. Yesterday I called to see the family, and she told me she [Miss Olga M. Rakerd] bore away the First Prize given by the P.O.S. [Patriotic Order Sons] of America, 10 volumes "Parkman's Histories," though there were scholars there from Bryn Mawr & other places to contend for it. She is very smart. Her father wrote this article for the organ of the Society and was published in it.

July 5: Wednesday.

Had a palp. in the night. Water efficient. Had palp. in Norristown at 10 A.M. Water efficient as soon as I could get it [in] ten minutes or more. Have been very active & busy since 5:10 A.M. when I rose. It is now 4 ½ P.M.

Many, many people wounded and some drowned & others met death by means of the pistol, &c. and by fire works. I never bought any fire crackers or other fire works in all my life.

Am taking 1/60th gr. Strychnia, 2 grs. Iron and two sulph. Quinine 3 times daily. Had one palp. today, but forgot to say I take also 1/8 gr. morph. a day.

July 7: Friday.

Busy yesterday looking after the harvesters and various other matters. After supper at 6 P.M. I read "Gray's Elegy" written in a Country Church Yard, several times and kept humming it over and over. When I got to bed, strange to say I could not quit it, my mind was full of it, and all night till 3 o'clock it, to use an Irish phrase, kept at me and I could not get to sleep. It is so whenever I read much in the evening just before bed-time.

This is a beautiful morning and, as I have had a cool bath and breakfast, am feeling quite well. There is promise too of quite a good harvest-day. So I hope we will get our grain, that cut yesterday, in the barn all right today.

Dr. John Hall, Superintendent at Friends Asylum at Frankford, will be buried this day., meet at 3 P.M. I would like to go to the funeral, but as I might get palp. and no means of getting the ice-water readily had probably better not go.

July 8: Saturday.

"Took in" three acres of wheat today. I was at Norristown & Consho. on business. One palp.

July 9: Sunday.

At home all day. Dr. E. M. Corson & Catharine called in the early evening. I read Friends Intelligencer & Journal "all through." [Did] also some other reading. Wrote two letters.

July 10: Monday.

Went to Norristown and paid \$50.80 School Tax, \$79 Borough Tax, gave Tacie \$40 to help her out. Home by noon. No palp. last night, none yet today, 6 P.M.

July 11: Tuesday.

Paid nearly \$200 more taxes in Norristown today. Rec'd. several letters today. One from my nephew (by marriage) Howard Comfort wanting to see me about supplying Dr. Hall's place in the Frankford Asylum for the Insane. He is one of the Directors. They are all Orthodox Friends. I think he must wish to see me about having a woman physician to have care of the insane females. It is so fine an opportunity to do that without aggrieving a superintendent. The Directors can take the exclusive control, appoint a male physician for the males and a woman physician for the females. I will attend to it, will go to see him on Saturday, as I want to take up the interest on my Government Bonds, \$84 for ½ year ending July 1st, 93

July 12: Wednesday.

A most frightful, fatal fire in Chicago. It was so awful that I will put a newspaper account in the back part of the book. To the victims it was an appalling situation, one of indescribable horror to the lookers-on.

Wrote letters & adjusted several matters till 9 A.M. from 6 A.M., then went to Norristown to see the carpenters at my stable on brother William's property, used to be. Then went to the Hospital to see Dr. Bennett and advise with her in Howard's case. I wanted to see if she knew of a suitable woman physician for the Frankford Hospital, if they should conclude to try one. Unfortunately she was not at home. Yet it may be that it was not a misfortune. It may prove to be a good thing, why I know not, but this I do know, "we are the creatures of accident," or circumstance, if that word suit better. Time will determine. Here I leave a small space to be used later.

Howard and two other Trustees came up and staid from 2 ½ P.M. until seven. Were greatly pleased with Dr. Bennett's management and selected Dr. Chase for their Hospital at Frankford. They had intended to go home at 5 P.M.

July 16: Sunday.

Since Wednesday I have gone about from Home to Norristown & Conshohocken as I am in the habit of doing, but on Saturday morning I went with Susan and Mary to Phila. to meet Frannie at the Terminus of the Norristown & Phila. R. Road (Depot) at 12th & Market Sts. Frannie was kind enough to offer to take care of Mary on the trip to New Hope.

This elevated Road from the old depot at 9th and Green which we have used for so many years, has only been open to the public for about a month or six weeks. It is yet only a temporary depot, and there was much confusion apparently, but we got Mary and Frannie started. Susan returned by next train and I went to see Howard Comfort at 529 Arch St., his office. He wanted to learn from me about the working of our State Hospitals for the insane, as they wish to organize their hospital and have a female physician for the female insane. Some of the Board of the Frankford Hospital & himself were desirous to do the best thing for the insane.

For two whole hours we were in earnest consideration of the subject as presented by me. Then, as I wished to return in the 12:02 train, I hastened away to the "Farmers and Mechanics Bank" and got my ½ year's dividend for 2800 dols. City Sixes, 84 Dols., then back to the depot just in good time to take the 12:02. Just as I took my seat in the car, palp. struck me, but a tumbler of ice-water made me all right, and I reached home in

due time, one P.M. But so weary! and all Sunday I felt oh! so weak, no appetite. Had a desire all the time to lie on the lounge.

July 17: Monday.

Passed a restless night and am so weak this morning that I was doubtful of getting up to breakfast. But I did and took a very little bread and butter and coffee.

At noon the Thermometer was 97° and I felt as I had done all the forenoon, that my time of usefulness was over. At 12 ½ noon a fierce rain occurred and the thermometer fell to 78° F. I had sent for some clams by Frannie Yocom, who was going to bring Bertie Day from Spring Mill station.

I had some cooked for me and made a dinner of them. Before going to dinner, I took a teaspoonful, two teaspoonsful of a solution of morph. The sol. was only ¼ gr. to [an] ounce water, so I had only 1/16 of a grain. Soon after the rain & change of air and after taking the anodyne solution and the clams, my great weakness almost wholly disappeared. Was it the rain, the change of temperature, the clams or the anodyne that did it? or had they all something to do with it? Certain it is I am feeling nearly as well now, 3 P.M., as I did before I started to the City.

Frannie Yocom brought Bertha Day.

July 20: Thursday.

Since last writing I have taken no tonic and only 1/8 gr. sulph. morph., not quite 1/8th in 24 hours and have been pretty well. Have slept unusually well. The hum of the world goes on as usual. Going to the Fair, strife about Sunday closing, murders, suicides, arsons, and oh! how sad the death of Miss Garrett the teacher of Deaf Mutes at Chicago, jumped from a 5th story window.

The girls have many visitors since coming here. Quite pleasant to have the girls here. Frannie Day came this morning. So she and Bertie, her daughter and Frannie Yocom are all out on the piazza talking & sewing and drawing.

Yesterday Thomas Yocom and Edgar Carter were here, also Miss Margaret Lukens & her friend Miss Cope.

9 P.M. Edgar Carter and Thomas Yocom (gd. son) came and spent the afternoon with the girls yesterday.

July 21: Friday.

9 P.M. I am having palp. about three or four times every 24 hours now. I got it at night much oftener now than I have done for many weeks before.

At 10 A.M. Bertie Day's friends, Mr. & Mrs. Williams came to see her, were here to dinner. I have been quite busy all day with many things. Have had palp. four times, am taking no medicine but 1/8 gr. morph. in two doses, one in forenoon, [the] other in afternoon before supper. Thos. Yocom & Edgar Carter came, staid till bed-time. I rode out to Barren Hill & to Consho. on business & read and wrote a good deal.

July 22: Saturday.

I rose at 5 A.M. The sun was even then already on his march. How grand he seems. There is a pretty heavy dew and mist, but he seems not to be checked in his upward course, and soon he will have caused them to disappear. Now just 6 A.M. and as

I wrote the word disappear, palp. struck me. I had had it once or twice in the night after four times yesterday. I stop, take the ice-water and am well.

9 P.M. Palp. once more today, not all night till morning of Sunday.

July 23: Sunday.

A good deal of company. No palp till 3:30 P.M. and again in evening.

July 24: Monday.

Cool all night, my windows up, light covering. Slept well. Just at sunrise a palpitation; water stopped it. At 6 ½ palp.; reading Dante. At 8 A.M. again palp. I will not take any of the Strychnia, &c., nor even a 24th of sulph. morph. for a while and can then see if it will be necessary to do it.

What is to be the result? I know not, but I do know that if the ice-water should fail to be efficient, I would have an uncomfortable time of it. I will try to do without taking any medicine today, and if the palps. should come often, will then try what small doses of morph, say 1/16th of a grain twice a day will do, should that do no better than nothing, then 1/8 gr. twice a day. After these trials will see what next. I don't mind to have them even four or five times a day, save the fear that so much ice-water so frequently repeated will badly affect my stomach, for as soon as the palp. is arrested, I am as well as ever.

I started at 9:15 and rode to Plym. P.O., then around Helen's farm to look for her man. Got home at 10. In about a minute after tying my horse, got palp., took water & stopped it; then took my book to note it down, but it returned as I was about to begin. So here I have two more attacks, and now as I write, twenty minutes after ten, it is still on me, for I thought I would leave it a short time as my stomach is cold from what I took ten minutes ago. I lay down and at 20 minutes of eleven it went off. Then I concluded I would take the Tonic Elixir, one teaspoonful and 3 teaspoonsful = (almost) to an 1/8 of the weak solution of sulph. morph. I did it and then immediately went to the barn and ungeared my animal, as both the men were in the oats field.

Am reading this morning Leigh Hunts stories from the Italian Poets. This one, on hand now, is the life and writings of Dante Alighieri. It is an interesting but sad history.

July 25: Tuesday.

9 P.M. After the palp., I took one dose. Have had no palp. since, though I should have said that I took a second dose at 6 P.M. I have felt very well today and went to Norristown to place in the hands of Dr. Wiley my paper on the means to prevent milk and butter from tasting of the odor of garlic when they eat garlicky pasture. Then went on to the Hospital for the Insane to show it to Bertie Day and Frannie Yocom, my gd. daughters whom I had with me. Got home at 6 P.M. This is a wonderful Hospital, 1000 female patients on one side, 1000 males on the other. Dr. Bennett (Alice) who is woman physician for the Insane is on her summer vacation, so we did not see her.

Wrote about three letters every day.

July 26: Wednesday.

Have had only one palp. today, but it was so I suppose because I took the medicine.

Therm. 96 ° F. for three or four hours. Oh! it was very hot when riding with the wind on our backs, while it was quite pleasant when in the carriage facing it. People sometimes drive the horse to death in this way. It is so pleasant and cool to them that they do not fear for the horse and drive him just as they would if a cool day, not reflecting that they are sitting at ease making no exertion, while the poor animal is exerting himself inordinately.

Read Emerson's Essays part of the day. To bed at 9:15 P.M.

July 27: Thursday.

Slept pretty well last night when I was struck with palpitation at 3 A.M. today. Took tumbler of ice water. Stopped it; went to bed; scarcely got settled in it before it again came. Took the water again. It stopped it. Went to bed & at 5 A.M. it came again. Took the water; it stopped it. Went to bed very carefully, slowly, and after lying a while awake, it came again. I then let it go on till 5:30, when I dressed myself and then took the water again. It went off, and I came down and began to write this.

I am somewhat disheartened. These quick returns while my stomach still has the ice-water in it looks to me as if I would be the victim of it all the time soon.

6 P.M. Had one attack of palp. at 2 P.M. Then went to Consho. to see James fix the windlass on the cistern at Joseph's 5th Av. house. At 4:30 Ada & Edward her son arrived at Jawood Lukens from Washington, while I was there. Edward is a fine bright little fellow, about nine years old, I think. They will come up here tomorrow.

Ada has been poorly for a few days. Joseph will probably come in a week or so. This has been a lovely day. I have so feared to have palpitation often today that I have taken Tinct. Valerian^{vi} and twice of 1/6 gr. of sulph. morph., and with the exception of the attack after dinner, have escaped thus far, though I have read and written considerable.

July 28: Friday.

A great change in the temperature. Slept well last night, had taken three tea-spoonsful of Tinct. Valerian and a little of the celestial yesterday. I did not urinate but twice in the night, instead of six or more [the] previous night. No palp. since the spell yesterday. I will take more of it, the valerian & celeste today and try to escape them.

August 3: Thursday.

6 P.M. Just home from Norristown where I went to meet Howard Comfort (who is married to Susan Foulke Wistar) and Messieurs Cope, Wood and Canby, Trustees of Frankford Hospital for the Insane managed by Orthodox Friends. I met them at the Hospital for Insane. I have been in correspondence with Howard Comfort for a week or two in relation to it and by request, visited him once in the City. I have urged on them the importance of having a woman physician for the female Insane, and they have expressed a wish to do so. I urged them, too, so strongly to come to see our great hospital and especially the women's department managed by Dr. Alice Bennett and containing 2006 patients that this visit today was agreed on. I spent but a few minutes with them, as I did not feel myself able to go through the wards with them. They are to

stay there to supper, will visit both sides of the Institution. They have arranged with Dr. Chase to have him elected as Chief physician of their Asylum, but to have a woman physician for the female insane. While Dr. Chase is an able man where he is, and has been for 13 years, the Trustees seem quite willing to let him go to Frankford to them, as they have another man for their place whom on some accounts they would prefer. Frankford Asylum is a small affair, only fifty males and seventy-five females. This change will be a great relief to Dr. Chase who now has just 1000 patients. I recommended Dr. Chase highly to Howard Comfort.

Since the 28th, I wrote nothing save the above, because things ran on smoothly, save that when I failed to take my medicine, the palps. were numerous and as soon as I resumed the taking of it regularly, I have not had it but once in 24 hours.

Ada & Edward spent a few nights here and yesterday I took her in the carriage to see Frannie Day. Was home by noon. Then went to Susan's.

August 5: Saturday.

Ada did not go on [the] 3rd, was here yesterday and left Conshohocken for home this morning. Have just had a letter from Joseph. Wants to come to see me soon.

Yesterday I called on a few old patients and good friends. It seemed to be a most grateful thing to them, and I may say truly, perhaps, a graceful thing for me to do. Half a century they had been under my care whenever they were sick. One was less than a year younger than myself, long a widow, poor and almost blind. Another whole family whom I have attended ever since their marriage, and they are grand-parents and the children of families whom I attended. The third was a widow who was once the wife of the richest member of Friends' Meeting at Plymouth and whose children were all born while I was their family physician. Strange to say, before the death of her husband, he became impoverished, and though all his children were grown, married and doing well, and he had been still regarded as a most exemplary man, he was insolvent when he died. Indeed I feel sure that his own knowledge of that fact so worried him that his life was greatly shortened by it. These people whom I have visited were apparently very glad to see me, and much complimented by my remembering them. One palp. yesterday and two today prior to beginning this writing.

August 6: Sunday.

9 P.M. Thomas Adamson, my nephew came here and we went to Friends Meeting at Plymouth. Preaching by Robert Hatton, whose mother was a Foulke. I often heard "Mother" (wife) speak of the marriage and the Foulke family used to speak of him as Cousin Rob't. Hatton. After dinner Thomas left at 3 P.M. We seemed very lonely after that. Had palp. once today.

August 7: Monday.

Two palps. last night and two today. Wrote letters to three Governors of States concerning their management of their insane, Kentucky, West Virginia & Minnesota.

August 9: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Yesterday was industriously at work arranging my papers, the genealogies of the Corson, Dickinson, Foulke, Wright and Jones of Montgomery

families. Got through most of them; packed each family by itself so that I can begin and go over them all again. Finished the work today.

President Cleveland's message came this morning. Every paper contains it and comments on it. Goes for repeal of the Sherman Bill which authorizes the purchase of so many millions of Silver Bullion, but leaves the important matter, the Tarif [sic], almost unnoticed, and in the few words he said about it clearly intimating, so as to hold the Democrats, that after the Bill is repealed he will take that up. Thus he leaves the great manufacturers and merchants in a state of fear that will prevent a change in their present feelings that that will induce them to attempt any great business operations.

What a singular condition of things exists here now, materials for building cheap as when wages were only one dol. per day for mason's & carpenters, yet the wages for these mechanics now three or 3 ½ or four dollars per day. If my pen were a good one, I would express my views on the message and the unrest, the fear of disaster that affects the community, but as it is, I stop.

Have had but one palp. last night & one today. Am taking in a whole day only 1/16 of a gr. of sulph. morph. and one teaspoonful of Tinct. Valerian twice daily. That seems to prevent so frequent attacks as before.

August 10: Thursday.

No palp. last night, but had it yesterday at noon just as I reached Plymouth Meeting on my way from Norristown. Water took it off when I got it at home. Slept very well last night. Only awake & up 4 times.

August 11: Friday.

Slept well last night. Had palp. but once & the water confronted it with immediate success. Had no attack today, now 6 P.M.

Have been very closely at work to arrange for the publication of the history of Corsons and all the side connections. There is so much to be got out of a medley in proper shape. I have said all that I know about the coming of the first Cornelius Corson and his wife Maritie [Maragrietje Neefies]. The land he bought, his death, his Will, by which he gave all his property real and personal to his wife Maritie. But in case she should marry then go to his children, not one of whom he names, merely says, "all my children" and again, "my children then living." Of two only am I therefore sure, Benjamin No. 1 who settled in Bucks Co. in 1726 and George who remained in Staten Island. Having gotten through with him I can, if well tomorrow, begin to arrange all that I know about the Benjamin, his son, my gt. gt. gt. gd. father. It is wonderful how well I feel while puzzling over the scraps of history that I have collected, to get them in order.

The papers are filled with the views of the Silver and Anti Silver men. The Tarif and anti-tarif [sic] men, and the President has gone to Buzzards Bay to fish. How strange our Sanitarians do not encourage the weak and sick to resort to this most healthful, restful means of invigoration & leave, fishing. Congress alive and anxious to relieve our people of the dangerous financial situation and the President "gone a fishing."

August 12: Saturday.

6 A.M. Had a palp. last night at 11:30. Arrested it with the water. Went to bed, had it again in half an hour, then took 1/16 gr. of morph and two teaspoonsful of Tinct. Valerian.

9 P.M. Had no palp. all day. Took a dose of the med. at noon and one a few minutes ago.

Was in Norristown on the forenoon to give certificate to the Pension Agent of the state of health of Wm. Wills before going to the War of the Rebellion and his condition after discharge on account of sickness. His widow wishes to get a pension. In the afternoon I was busy with the Corson genealogy.

August 13: Sunday.

It amazes me greatly to see in the daily newspapers accounts of the numerous suicides, murders, rapes, embezzlements, cruelties inflicted on wives, poisoning of persons to obtain money for policies of insurance, gotten previously with the direct purpose to poison or murder the one insured, in the interest of the insurers. At this time a Mrs. Shann is on trial for poisoning her son, and when she heard that the company wished to examine his body, suspecting foul play, she in the night disemboweled him and that too when she and her daughter were spending the night in the room with his dead body, the girl asleep close to the coffin, or "cooling board." I have dwelt on this subject before, but it keeps on from day to day, increasing in its means of taking life. When I was a young man, a single murder of much atrocity, once a year, horrified us. Now they are by hundreds.

Morning 9 o'clock. Just as I finished the above, I was struck with palp. This is the third time since 3 o'clock last night when I awakened with it on me. Got up, took tumbler of ice-water, 2/3 of it sufficient, and I was at once well. Then went to bed, but not till I had taken a dose of my medicine. At 5 had it again, though I had slept well. I am more and more astonished from day to day, at the prompt effects of the ice-water. What shall I do if it should fail me?

Have already read nearly all the content of the Friends Intelligencer and Journal.

My neighbor, George Dutterer, son of "Nathan and Peggy," my contemporaries from childhood, was "blown up in a quarry." Will probably lose his eye-sight. His sister is blind; his grand mother was so for many years, those without injuries. I pity the poor fellow. Though somewhat intemperate, he is a kind and very handy man.

9 P.M. I have been busy today. Have read "Friends Intelligencer" from first to last page. Some of the articles wonderfully orthodox for Hicksites to write. But really scarcely one in ten know the difference between Hicksism and Orthodoxy. It is just a combination of popular phrases and old traditions. I might say superstitions which make up their sermons and approved writings in the paper. I am disgusted with much that they think "is given to them" to preach or to write.

This afternoon I have assorted my papers and put them in their proper order.

August 14: Monday.

6 A.M. No palp. last night. Slept pretty well.

9 P.M. Was at Norristown on business matters in forenoon. Palp. at noon. Wrote and took a short sleep and, I am afraid, lolled about.

August 15: Tuesday.

9 P.M. Palp. in the night 3 times. Feel pretty well this morning. Went to Norristown, wrote replies to letters. Got one [from] Dr. Bennett and Gov. [of] Texas and Joseph.

August 16: Wednesday.

7 A.M. Three times last night I had palp. The ice-water stopped it as soon as it was taken. It stops before I get the glass from me lips. But even with this speedy and not very unpleasant means of relief, the night is greatly broken and the sleep interfered with. I had had some rather perplexing questions to answer by letter before bed time, perhaps they had a disturbing effect on my nervous system. In the afternoon too, I was at my genealogical record of the Corsons, Dungans, &c., in order to have the record truthful, accurate.

Have a letter by evening mail from the Governor of Texas, about their hospitals for the insane.

The weather is fearfully dry, but otherwise pleasant. The financial condition of the Country is such that hundred, thousand I should say, of men are being discharged from large factories and mills daily. The Congress has been worrying with it for several days, with no good result. The interests of the East and the West are so diverse and the hostility of the old rebel element of the South now installed in some of the most important national affairs, so hostile to the North that the situation is a most precarious one. Our fishing President deserves hanging, for his appointing the Rebels to offices which ought to be held by loyal men.

9 P.M. The day has passed with the world hurrying on as usual. I am a good deal crippled in my left shoulder with a stiffness, soreness and inability to put my arm in certain positions without a jerk of pain. But it has not yet tackled my right arm, and so I can still write. Palp. only once today.

August 17: Thursday.

9 P.M. Had an attempt at palp. last night. It struck me while lying awake at 1 A.M. I turned my feet out of bed & sat still. In a minute it went off.

Very many letters to write. I forgot to say that on Wednesday I went to the Hospital to see Dr. Bennett. She is desirous to have my pamphlet on the "Recognition of Women Physicians" "enlarged and made interesting." Will if she can do it by a graphic account of the condition of public sentiment on the subject then. I would be pleased to have it done. My pamphlet is a plain statement of the facts as they occurred at that time, all of which I knew & part of which I was.

Suffered a good deal today from neuralgia about the shoulder blade, but no palp. Joseph came soon after noon. I wrote to four Governors today. Have had some interesting letters from others.

August 18: Friday.

Joseph & I started for Norristown at 9 A.M. Met Thomas Adamson unexpectedly at Plymouth, just coming to see me. He wished to stop and see the Hovenden's, and so we went on, saw Tacie, Ellwood, Nina Read, Dr. Read, &c. At

noon were home and Thomas here to dine with us. Have had no palp. since yesterday morning. Afternoon staid at home. Jay & Susan came and staid half an hour or more.

August 19: Saturday.

Up at 5 ½. Before six called up Tille to have our breakfast so that Joseph & myself might go to see Franny and her family in the early morning, going by the Wissahickon Park, the road through the Park right along side of the Creek, to where we turn off is about six miles long, a most enchanting ride.

I slept well last night. I was about to say delightfully, but as I have said there is no real sensible enjoyment in sleep, it will hardly be appropriate. Sleep is Death, only that we come to life again. It refreshes the body but we are sensible of enjoyment from it only after we awaken.

3 P.M. Joseph & self went to Germantown to see Franny & family, left here at ¼ of 8, arrived at 10' after 9 A.M. Left there at 10:45. Was home at seven minutes after 12 noon. While at Frannie's, the wife of the next door neighbor came in and wanted one of us to come in and prescribe for her father. Joseph seemed reluctant, but as it was only to allay their fear that their physician might not come in time, and as the person was an old man, it was concluded that I had better go. I went, comforted the old man, quieted the fears of his children, and found that the husband of the lady who had come in for me was, is, the wife of a Lawyer Pettit of the Law-Firm of Roache & Co., N. York. Strange wasn't it that this very week I was reading of the eminent lawyers Roache & Co. who when an important trial is called are always ready with their legal authorities and with decisions to meet every point. But it stated that it was not from patient pains taking searches of their own. In every complicated cases of great importance, Mr. Pettit had the case laid before him and he began to gather the authorities bearing on every point in the case and had them arranged so that Roache & the other one, or himself could carry on the case without delay and without a break in their line of defense, or line of prosecution.

I found Mr. Pettit to be much of an invalid. Almost blind and with, Dr. Mitchell says, commencing Locomotor Ataxia, [he is] very pleasant despite the prospect before him. It seems strange that I had read this notice of him only a few days ago and should so soon accidentally meet with him. He said he had very often heard of me.

5 ½ P.M. Joseph & self have been to Conshohocken to see Mr. Charles Heber Clarke descant on the present financial trouble in our Country. Every day numerous failures and closures occur. Indeed there are none less of thousands of laborers in manufactories of various kinds out of employment and but little prospect of any improvement in the situation brought upon us by the anti Tariff democrats. From the Atlantic to the Pacific every industry has been almost arrested. Iron mills closed everywhere, cotton mills woolen mills, oh I can't name the thousands that are stopped and the men & women shut out. But they are the same men and women who when Cleveland was elected went on procession with flags & banners on which were inscribed "now we will have roast meat and two dollars a day," and numerous other sayings and "down with the Tariff," &c., &c. It seems almost a cruel wish but I am desirous to see them, now that they are shut out by tens of thousands, so chastened that employers will be no longer abused and insulted by those to whom they gave work and a living.

I greatly regret as does Charles Clarke himself, that he did not agree to accept the nomination for Congress last year. He could have been elected and now would be a power in the House

9 P.M. After supper Thomas Hovenden & wife Helen Corson, her sister Ida and Miss Stevenson, an English trained nurse, who nursed Helen when she was sick in England, came over and spent the evening with us.

Have not had palpitation today.

August 20: Sunday.

No palp. last night. Have been at home with Joseph and Mary all day. Thos. Yocom & Edgar Carter came before dinner. Thos. Hovenden & Ida and Miss Stevenson in evening. I did my usual reading in "Friends Intelligencer," &c., &c. No palp.

August 21: Monday.

Joseph & self went to Conshohocken, he on his way home. Afternoon, Mary and self went to Chestnut Hill to collect interest. I called to see Dr. Gilbert. Poor fellow, once so strong & healthy, now a mere wreck, though more than a score of years younger than myself. Still practicing some, perhaps may need to do it for a living. Though, I think not.

August 22: Tuesday.

Have had but one attack of palp. since the morning of the 16th when I had three and three the day before until this morning, when I had two before I rose, six whole days & nights, but why this exemption? I had become quite alarmed at its frequent repetition on [the] 15th and morning of 16th and began at once to take my medicine steadily and a little stronger than before. I began to take two very full teaspoonsful of an Elixir of Quinine gr.ij, Citrate of Iron gr. ij, sulph. Strychnia 1/60 gr. and sulph. morph. 1/12 gr. 3 times a day. Sometimes I added to this one dram Tinct. Gentian. This med. kept me under its bracing influence, so that I was not troubled with the palp.. But yesterday I only took it once in full dose and about a half one at bed time, so it resulted in my having it twice this morning. I will return to my usual doses of last week.

9 P.M. Have had no palp. today. Been looking over & correcting or rather putting in better form some of the notes. Murders, suicides, embezzlements, elopements, &c., &c., plentiful as usual today.

August 23: Wednesday.

Slept well as usual. No palp. All are up early, all active in the kitchen getting breakfast and doing other things so as to be ready to go on an excursion with the two Church Sunday Schools, Methodist and Baptist, to Menlo Park, to leave Plymouth Station at 8 ¼ A.M. Well, I suppose they will enjoy themselves. In my early days, we had no such enjoyments.

Mary & myself are alone. Our woman & her son & "Mame," Mary's "help," have gone. Afternoon. Albert Staley, whose parents lived in the house at the end of the lot, came at noon and took dinner with us as we were just at it. I had not seen him for about forty years. I had heard that for the last fifteen or more years he had been wild on the subject of Spiritualism, so at dinner he gradually began to talk about it. Such foolish

talk I have rarely, if ever, heard. As Frannie had been here only about an hour and expected to leave about 4 P.M., I saw that I could have no time with her if I did not get rid of him. So turning towards Franny as we sat at the table I rose and said, well Frannie, if we go to see Mrs. Hovenden, and thee expects to go home at 4 o'clock, we will have to move pretty soon. Then he and I went into the parlor and he seemed to think he must go, but I said, pulling out my watch, we half nearly a half hour yet before we need to go. In that half hour I heard the most silly talk I ever had heard in that much time. He gave me a pamphlet which he had published, a most ridiculous publication.

5 P.M. I have just returned from taking Frannie to the Cars.

9 P.M. A letter from Dr. Traill Green of Easton to tell me how [he appreciated?] my paper on the means to prevent milk from cows pastured in garlicky fields from becoming garlicky; one from Miss Campbell for a letter on the 80th birth day of Miss Mary Grew; another for information for the Children's Aid Society of Phila. about a family who wishes to take a child to keep.

August 24: Thursday.

A wonderful stormy night. Replied to my letters of yesterday. Had palp. in the night. Water, as usual, arrested it. Had it again at 8 this morning. Water instantly efficient again. Went to Conshohocken on business matters.

After noon took Tacy some potatoes & apples, and as Mary was with me, we rode up to the Cemetery and saw the graves of Follen & his first wife Mary Lukens, and also brother William's and Mr. Alfred Hurst's (a dear old friend of Wm. & myself) and his wife with whom Wm. boarded for more than thirty years and where daughter, Mrs. Alice Brown, wife of Senator Henry R. Brown, still resides. The house is now mine.

The graves are nicely kept, but oh! how sad it seems, Follen & Mary cut off so soon. Wm. was 80 years old, and was just gradually worn out, passed away without suffering, being up and prescribing for patients until two days before his death. Home at 4 ½ P.M.

August 25: Friday.

Have had palp. two hours because I could not have access to water cold enough. Was at Consho. and the Stations had ice-water but not cold enough, so left it till I reached home. I had not taken half so much med. as usual in the last 24 hours.

During the whole afternoon, after a brief nap, I was engaged copying of my mortgages, & other claims, and making things plain for those who are to come after me.

August 26: Saturday.

Very busy from 6 A.M., writing and receiving communications till noon. A beautiful letter from Miss Campbell, with several copies of leaflets already sent to her for the book of congratulations for Mary Grew, so that I could see the general style of addressing her. Letter & books from Governor of South Carolina, per his Secretary, on subject of the Insane in the State. They had an Asylum away back in 1822.

Had palp. once today. Did not ride today. Read and wrote, ate three meals; two are plenty for one who does not work. Had reply from the Governor of Rhode Island.

Miss Campbell's letter inspired me to do some new work. What a choice group of people her eighty will be; my dear old friend Miss Grace Anne Lewis is one of them.

Her leaflet is beautiful. Wrote a long letter to Joseph in reply to a loving, perhaps too partial and complimentary one from him. Sent one to Helen with Staley's "Soul Book." Poor fellow, how he is toiling away his life under this delusion. But are we not all doing the same thing in other ways! Palp. once today.

August 27: Sunday.

6 A.M. I had palp. in the night. Water did the work for it. Mary and self staid at home all day. Jay & Susan came at 10 ½ A.M., staid till 12. Had one palp. I am now writing. Had one palp.

August 28: Monday.

I am now writing, Monday morning. Wrote to two Governors last evening, Florida & Arkansas.

Therm. 76 at 6 ½ A.M. Had a palp. yesterday at 2 P.M. and one last night. 9 P.M. It has been very hot & sultry today, so went out but little, to Consho., Plymouth Meeting, &c.

August 29: Tuesday.

I rested but little last night. Wind & rain so that by midnight I had to close the many windows though the wind was plunging fearfully. Then got too warm and at 2 o'clock had palp. Water did its work, and I was not troubled again till morn.

Nothing of great importance with us today. Took Mary to a pic-nic of the Band of Hope, of which she is a member.

August 30: Wednesday.

Nothing of importance. The usual routine of writing, reading, riding here and there & so on. No palp. today.

August 31: Thursday.

Did not take any medicine though I had palp. at 2 & 4 A.M. Went in morning to Norristown to see J. J. Corson about money matters, to the Montg'y. Bank to deposit Judgments & Mortgages, also to First National Bank to get my Bank Book settled. After I had gotten through business and started for home, got palp. which lasted all the way.

Afternoon went to Consho. to see about renting Joseph's house to a man, an Italian. Read the papers, wrote some letters, &c., &c.

Mary was with me in Norristown. Always after supper we sit together on the front piazza till the mail comes at 7 ½ P.M., then reading of letters and the evening paper closes the work of the day.

September 1: Friday.

How rapidly the weeks and months roll round. Here we are in the Fall of 1893. It seems but a few weeks since the events of the early Spring so fresh in my mind occurred. How rapidly I am shortening the very brief time which is left to me. It is now within a little more than a month, since 83 years ago my mother died. Oh! what a change in this region since that time. Father too passed away 60 years ago, at the age of

seventy, while mother had I think reached but about 47, and here I am just rounding my 90th year.

September 2: Saturday.

I have a great desire to have every thing about my tenant houses, of which there are ten, fixed up before winter, as well as about my residence. So have another man, a tenant in arrears, aiding James. We have been in Norristown today at it, yesterday in Conshohocken. I was very busy until noon before I would leave for home today, riding around getting things for the men and directing the work, calling on Tacie and gave her some money, on little Jos. Read, on J. J. Corson, on Dr. E. M. Corson, &c., &c.

I had no palp. yesterday, nor today, save once last night. Today none. Letter from Joseph, Frannie, and Gov. of Florida about the insane; also from Thos. Adamson, now in Georgia; also from Miss Rex.

September 3: Sunday.

Therm. 54° F. Palp at 4 A.M. After breakfast read "Friends Intelligencer & Journal," a most interesting number it is. At 10 A.M. went to Friends Meeting. Edwin Pierce and Robert Hatton both spoke. Saw several of my friends.

Thomas Yocom & Edgar Carter were here to dinner. It over I lay down in bed and expected to be up in an hour, but slept till 3 P.M. While asleep, nephew Charles Foulke & a son of John J. Corson called. As I was still asleep the whole four went away. I was mortified that I slept so long & missed them. After rising a poor man, Matt Lewis called for assistance. While talking with him, two ladies called, Dr. Willits [Willits] and a friend; staid about an hour, had a pleasant talk with them.

Palp. last night, at 4 o'clock this morning.

September 4: Monday.

Temp. 55° at sunrise. Palp. soon after I went to bed. Last evening I heard of the death of my friend Robert Alexander Lamberton, L.L.D., President of Lehigh University, and Dr. Edwin [E. G.] Martin of Allentown, Lehigh County. Dr. Lamberton was a Trustee with me for seven years in the Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburgh, and Dr. Martin was a Trustee at Norristown Hospital for the Insane since its organization 13 years ago. Both very fine men. Both with me in my efforts before the Legislature in its last two sessions, in my attempt to get a reform Bill through it. I served as Trustee long enough to see how utterly wrong it was to have the insane under a Superintendent who had charge of the farm and was purveyor of the household.

September 5: Tuesday.

Thirty hours ago I had a palp. on Sunday night, took ice-water (which is always ready for me under a feather cushion in the entry at my room door) and instantly it was arrested, the palp. I mean, and the heart resumed its usual gait 56 per minute. Well, I did not take the dose which I had ready to take should I get the attack, but went to bed and slept well, as usual, which means getting up every hour and an half to urinate. In the morning of yesterday did not take medicine. Before noon I had a palp., but after stopping it with the water, I did not take med. At bed-time I thought I would try to go to

sleep without and did so. All last night I was without an attack. I think it well now to take no medicine until I see how I get along without taking any.

Bertha Yocom, my dau. and her son Thos. came last evening and staid all night.

9 P.M. Daughter Susan came at 5 P.M. and took Bertha home with her. I was feeling very weak, but had been all the afternoon actively at work, riding round to procure barrels to put cider in and overlooking the doings of the two men I have at work.

Had palpitation about noon. The water was efficient, but I did not take any medicine. I am trying what abstinence from it will do. And now at 9 P.M. I have had no more attacks than when I was taking it, if so many. I will persevere if possible. I feel a want of it. I have been using the tonic, Elixir of Quinine, Iron & Strychnia 1/60 gr., now for many months, mostly three times a day and of course feel the change considerably.

The weather has been unusually cool for a few days. Therm. as low as 55° F.

September 6: Wednesday.

Slept with fewer awakenings last night than when I was using the medicine and slept soundly. Had no palp., but I felt very weak when I was waiting for bed-time to come around. Am as much rested this morning as usual, so will persevere in not taking any medicine as long as I can.

One o'clock P.M. today I was struck by palp. while engaged in writing the account of Aunt Rachel Blaker and family. Water arrested the attack and I resumed work. This was the only attack since noon yesterday, though I took no medicine.

8 P.M. The entire afternoon I have been completing the history of my Father and his brothers and sisters, the children of Benjamin Corson 3rd and Sarah Dungan, daughter of Joseph Dungan. They were

- 1) Benjamin 4th, who moved to Muncy, Pa.;
- 2) Joseph, my father;
- 3) Richard, Bucks Co.;
- 4) Mary, who mar. Wm. Harvey;
- 5) Elizabeth, mar. Issachar Morris;
- 6) Rachel, mar. Paul Blaker;
- 7) Sarah, mar. Mathias Bennet [Bennett];
- 8) Jane, mar. Wm. Bennett;
- 9) Joshua, mar. Lee;
- 10) Amos, mar. Martindale;
- 11) Thomas, next to Richard.

Both morning & noon I felt that I must be down on the lounge, but resisted and wrote till nearly six P.M., then ate supper and at 7 started with Mary to Conshohocken on business about the houses. Since getting home read every paper. Feel weak and as if I must go to bed, yet as it is only 8 o'clock, I don't like to go so soon. 9 P.M. Go to bed.

September 7: Thursday.

Morning, 7 o'clock. After I got to bed, my lower limbs felt cool, so piled a heap of clothes on them, but it was long time before I slept. Had not taken medicine. Slept a good deal last night, but was weak and uncomfortable when awake for an hour at a time

occasionally. Had too much cover on me, was partly the cause of my discomfort. At 5 ½ A.M. I got up and took a dose of the Elixir. I fear that I cannot do without some tonic. Since midnight of Sunday I have done without the Tonic (save once) and have not had as many palpitations as when I was taking it and the weak morph. sol., 1/16 of a gr. 3 times a day. So that seems to prove that the tonic & anodyne were not efficient to prevent the recurrence of the palpitations, or to make me sleep as I have slept better without them, had not to rise so often to urinate. This morning I found my night shirt very red all about the front in the region of the penis, stained with blood. On looking at the urine, not a trace of it was found. It is inexplicable to me.

10 P.M. By noon today I was very feverish and confined to the lounge. It increased and I became very miserable. I sent for Ellwood. He came at 5 P.M. and prescribed for me.

Tct. Aconite^{vii}, 12 drops

Sulph. Morph. ½ gr.

Div. into 12 pills

Tart. Emetic 1 ½ gr.

I took one every hour until five were taken, the last one made me vomit. I then after an hour and a half took another. After a few minutes that, too, made me sick, and again in an hour and a half took another. This, too, made me vomit. But as I had then taken seven drops aconite tincture and more than ¼ gr. morph., I felt greatly better and took no more. From the very start, or rather from after the second one was used, I felt great relief from the fever and distress. The last pill was taken at 11 o'clock and from then until morning, I could lie still and was pretty comfortable.

September 8: Friday.

I slept a little towards morning. Feel free of the fever which so distressed me yesterday, took a little breakfast. Lay in bed till noon. Dr. E. M. Corson came then, and though I seemed greatly improved, left me Quinine pills. I took 4 grs. then, 4 grains at 4 P.M. and now six o'clock I am feeling pretty well, though I have had two attacks of palp.

Took Mary [for] a short ride this afternoon.

September 9: Saturday.

Thermometer at 52° at sunrise. Slept pretty well last night. At 4 A.M. was attacked with palp., but before I got ready to take the ice-water, it stopped. Up early, ten minutes before six. Feel just about as I did before I got the feverish attack. But looking at my case all around, I am greatly changed as regards strength and ability to read or write for two or three hours, from what I was a year ago.

Had a letter from my friend Dr. Traill Green last evening giving me an account of the health of our mutual friend Dr. Robert A. Lamberton, President of Lehigh University. He had taken a ride in the afternoon with his wife and when he returned told her before supper, how well he felt. At supper he was suddenly sickened, fell forward with apoplexy and in about two hours was dead.

Dr. Green said he had taken the presidency of the college when it had three hundred pupils, left it with 600.

I feel glad that Governor Hartranft, by appointing me to be trustee to the Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburgh, led to my acquaintance with Dr. Lamberton, then a leading

Democratic Lawyer in Harrisburgh. I took especial pains to get him interested in my efforts to have women physicians for the medical care of the female insane, and succeeded grandly and to the comfort of Dr. L. who for years has worked with me and Dr. Green. And today I have heard that Dr. Jn^o K. Reid felt giddy about one week ago, and called to his hired man to catch him, fell and has been insensible ever since. So I have no great reason to complain if taken sick now and then, or if I have a sense of much weakness, for I am almost in my ninetieth year. In a month, Oct. 8th, while Drs. Martin, Reid and Lamberton have barely reached 55 years, the latter perhaps 66. But how little a matter of a few years seems when we consider that eternity of time which is to follow us.

September 10: Sunday.

I slept quite well last night. Up only four times. Every time I awaken I rise to see what time of night, and then quite a long wakeful spell, half or three quarters of an hour, so my hours asleep are not many, as I go to bed at 9 P.M. and rise next morning at six. I was hurried out of bed early this morning by diarrhoea.

2 P.M. Wrote before dinner at noon the important points from the replies of the Governors, about 15 of them, of various States to my inquiries about the insane so as to have them without having to wade through them again, if I want to be informed on any special point. Since dinner have had a short nap.

9 P.M. Wrote letters and read the Intelligencer, Friends. After supper went to Thomas Hovenden's. As we were going out, we met him, Helen, Ida, Miss Stephenson (the English nurse) and the children all in one carriage to see us. They turned back and we had a pleasant time till it grew dark.

After we got home and had settled down, I found Mary reading one of the volumes of the "New Testament" which Alice Whitall presented to me years ago. There are four books with very large good print. Seeing her at it, I took one. It was an account of the birth of John, the Baptist, and of Jesus Christ and their sayings and doings. Such an account written now of such new events would not be believed for a moment. It has not the least semblance to truth. A person not acquainted with the religion of the day would by it be led to believe, if belief were possible, that the conversations between the Lord, so called, and the people of the times were frequent and that the Devil, a real being, had taken Christ here and there just as he pleased, though the latter did not comply with what he was directed to do. Again that this same devil was making a home inside the people, and in one man forty devils had housed themselves. Then the miracles. But let me say no more. What a pity, though, that the history of Jesus and his doings was even so disfigured by frightful lies written about him, his birth and blameless life.

September 11: Monday.

Rose at six. Went early to Consho. to rent Joseph's little house to an Italian. Home by 10 ½, read the paper &c. until noon. After dinner went with Mary to Norristown, visited Tacie, John J. Corson, Dr. E. M. Corson & made some purchases, and brot a heavy cube of ice, price 10 cts., to have for tonight. I have to thus prepare myself to combat the Palpitation. By the way, I have not had an attack since last Thursday at 2 P.M., for 100 hours if I do not get one before six o'clock. It is now 5 P.M.

September 12: Tuesday.

Slept pretty well. Up only 4 times before 6:45. Then had palp., got up, took the ice-water which stopped it. Then I dressed and entered on the days work, which will be what circumstances shall determine, let me resolve as I may. I expect to have my grain crop threshed today. Palp. again before 9 A.M.

5 P.M. Have twice driven to Conshohocken today to get things needed for the threshers & myself, and have done some other things. Very busy indeed have I been. Had five letters. The threshers seem to have done a great deal. The pile of straw is enormous, as applied to straw.

September 14: Thursday.

Palp. 3 times last night. The last time I let it go about an hour before I took ice-water. I really am at the end of my wits to know what to do. Today at 2 P.M. I had it again, took ice-water; it went at once; lay down a few minutes; in ten minutes had it again, lay still a few minutes, then went for the water. Just as I was about to drink it, the palp. stopped. Just before I got it, at 2 P.M., I had taken 20 drops Tct. Digitalis and 1/12 gr. sulph. morph. So that shows it of no special value to prevent it [palpitation] in that dose.

September 15: Friday.

No palp. last night, none today. Did not go away much. In the after-noon took Mary with me to see Robert Hatton & family, a mile away. Also rode to Spring Mill new school-house to see the Teacher, and get a list of the names of Governors of the States, all save 16 that I have written too. Wrote to several Governors in relation to their management of Hospitals for the insane.

September 16: Saturday.

No palp. last night.

September 17: Sunday.

Went to Meeting, after writing and reading all the morning. Had been in Meeting but in a few minutes when I was struck by palpitation. After sitting a few minutes, I rose, went out and rode home. Took the ice-water and was at once well.

A week has passed in the old way, rising at 6 A.M., reading, writing, riding about, having work done by the men preparatory to sowing the grain, and one of them doing odds and ends in preparation for the coming winter.

Wednesday I spoke by req. of Med. Society of our County on Cholera and its cure, and on Hydrophobia and was appointed to report on that subject.

September 24: Sunday.

Six A.M. Have had very few attacks of palp. the past week, the result of taking a fourth, or nearly a fourth of sulph. morph., and fifty drops digitalis Fld. Ext. daily, half in forenoon and half at from 6 to 8 P.M., sometimes being a day and night without an attack. The ice-water [is] prompt to arrest it whenever it happened.

Burglars attack Rev'd A. A. Marple of Bridgeport near Norristown. His daughter saved them, the family, from great abuse likely.

10 A.M. Have been reading up to this time. Jay & Susan have come.
At 9 P.M., ready for bed. Home all day.

September 27: Wednesday.

Thus far this week have been quite busy. Have been but little worried with palp., as it has come but rarely. None until just now since Tuesday after dinner, and then the water achieved a victory.

The men have sowed 3 ½ acres of grain & are cutting off corn.

The Congress, at least the Senate still squabbling over the "Repeal of the Sherman Bill." Don Cameron, our Senator (Republican) gone against in opposition to the almost united sentiment of the Republican Party of this State and of the main body of its democrats. He has been a most worthless Senator. Those who want the "Sherman Bill" repealed do it not because they think it has been an injurious one, but because the object which was desired by its passage has been obtained. When passed it was a compromise of the political parties to avert an evil.

The County is wonderfully alive. The Fair has from 150,000 to 200,000 paying visitors daily. The Senate disputing. The assemblage of "Congress of Religionists" at the Fair, and the "holding up of trains" by armed & murderous burglars, keep us on the *sui vive* all the time.

Joseph & family reached home from the Fair on Monday. Richard Day and son are there this week and in raptures about it.

September 30: Saturday.

6 ½ A.M. Therm. 40°. Took none of my Elixir, nor morph of any account at all for nearly three days, but the palps. are coming more frequently and I feel very weak. Did not sleep so well as usual last night, but every thing seems right with me, save my great weakness, so great that I feel that I must lie on the lounge, a thing I have never been used to.

9 P.M. I have been quite miserable today, I mean for me to be, though I took a small dose of the Elixir and 16th of a grain of sulph. morph. with it.

I went to bed at 10 A.M., slept till noon, took dinner, though feeling that I needed none, or rather that feeling as though I was already too full of food, and with a feeling that I really needed none and ought not to load my stomach with any. But the custom is to eat at certain times of day, hungry or not. I took dinner, then went right to bed and slept till 2 ½ P.M.; then got up and rode to Conshohocken to do several errands and bring Carrie Cresson from Sp. Mill. I felt nearly all the time that I was away that there was danger that I would not reach home, but I said nothing about it and as soon as [we] got there, I took 1/8th sulph. [morph.] & a teaspoonful of the Elixir. Since then I have been much on the lounge, have had supper and feel better. I doubt not that it was the absence of the Tonic & anodyne which I had taken 3 times a day for some weeks, that caused me to feel so weak. Think I will resume it.

October 1: Sunday.

7 A.M. Slept pretty well in the times between the awakenings, which are about 1 ½ hours. Feel better this morning as a result of the tonic & anodyne, so will take another

dose after breakfast., 1/12 gr. sulph. morph., one teaspoonful of Elixir of Quinine, Iron & strychnia 1/60 of a gr.

First day, ninth mo. 1893, 4 P.M. As it is the first day of the week and the first day of the month, I here give the Friends style. Wrote and read till 10 A.M. when Jay & Susan came. At noon they left. After dinner, read the "Friends Intelligencer," all of it, then gave it to Carrie Cresson to take home with her.

October 4: Wednesday.

Rose late this morning because my fifth time being awake, at 5 o'clock was rather early to call the girls, so got asleep again, and what is strange, I have had only one dose of the medicine since this time yesterday and no palp. since then.

Have eaten but a very light breakfast. Wrote letters last night to Joseph & Bertha and Dr. Willard. Had several letters yesterday from friends and one from Dr. E. A. Wood with enclosed slip of Newspaper, with his poem of "The Spirit Dog." Dr. Wood is a talented man, a genius in his way, and a real sincere friend of mine.

October 6: Friday.

6 ½ A.M. Sent letters to two Governors of States for information in relation to their Insane Poor, and two more to doctors with favorable criticisms of their medical papers and surgical achievements. One was to Dr. Mary Dixon Jones of Brooklyn, N. York, a surgeon of wonderful skill, who got up the Brooklyn Hospital and operates there. She sends to me her published papers of cases operated on, and after reading them, I send them to my male friends who are in the same line of surgery, the gynecological, that they may see what the women surgeons who were so strongly opposed by the profession a few years ago can do.

Received interesting and complimentary letters yesterday. It is likely that it was because of their being complimentary that they were interesting. It is a great and daily pleasure to me that I receive so many grateful letters from long time friends.

October 8: Sunday.

8 A.M. My ninetieth Birthday. A splendid morning. Tacie F. C. Cresson and Bertha Corson Yocom both came here yesterday, also James Yocom Jr., Bertha's 3rd son. I expect Frannie Day, my daughter, up from Germantown and Susan Lukens, her Sister from Conshohocken here before noon.

I am feeling pretty well today. How strange that I have out-lived all my Sisters and brothers. For nearly if not quite fifty years troubled with palpitation of the heart as I have been, I did not have expectation of living so long and continuing so active. I feel assured that I shall not continue another year. Indeed I feel almost all the time now, very weak and as if I can't continue much longer here.

Four o'clock P.M. About 10 A.M. Susan and her husband, Jawood Lukens came and Susan bearing a large "pound cake" that one of her girls baked for my Anniversary Day. At 10 ½ A.M. Frannie, her daughter Bertha, the one young lady, the central figure in "Bringing Home the Bride," Thomas Hovenden's Painting, and their neighbor and friend Mrs. Dodge, came in Mr. Dodge's beautiful carriage and span of horses. At 11 ½ my nieces Helen Hovenden and her sister Ida Corson, children of my brother George and his wife Martha Maulsby Corson, walked in, followed in a few minutes by Joseph Jones

& Sister Martha from Conshohocken, children of my niece Mrs. Sarah Jones, daughter of my Sister Sarah Read & her husband Thomas Read, both long since dead. At 12 noon came Charles Foulke and a young son of my nephew John J. Corson, son of my brother Charles Corson & his wife Sarah Egbert, both now deceased, and Frannie & her friend and daughter left for home, as did, too, Jawood Lukens and Susan and Helen and Ida and Jos. Jones and Martha his sister. Thus left alone, we sat down to a quiet, good dinner of ham & corn fritters.

9 P.M. Oh how tired I was! As soon as dinner was over, I went to bed and slept for two hours. Then got up at 3 P.M. Soon Dr. Mary Willits, one of the physicians of the great Hospital for the insane at Norristown, Miss Walker of the Valley and for years a teacher at 16th & Race St. in Friends (Orthodox I think) and Miss Whiting, a pupil of Bryn Mawr College and daughter of Edith Whiting of Springfield, Mass., arrived. They staid a half hour or so, then left for home after telling me that Dr. Alice Bennett had sent her congratulations to me on having reached my ninetieth birthday. Bertha & son left for Phila. and after supper at 5 ½ P.M., Tacie also went home and Mary and self were alone again.

While at supper at 5 P.M., my nephew Dr. Ellwood M. Corson & wife, daughter Kitty and son Livingston called, staid but a short time as night was near at hand. After supper the Artist Thomas Hovenden came in, followed in a few minutes by Walter Corson, son of Elias H. dec'd. and gd. son of my brother Alan W. Corson and Mary Egbert his wife, both now deceased. Mrs. Walter Corson is a landscape painter of much repute. The three after a short stay left for home as darkness was coming on.

And now at 9 P.M. Mary and self are alone again. Even our cook Tildy has gone to Church. While Mr. Hovenden & Walter and his wife were here, I was struck by palpitation. I excused myself, slipt [sic] off to the ice-water, a rapid drink of which stopped it at once.

October 9: Monday.

9 P.M. Slept well last night, only "up" 4 times. Felt pretty well this morning. Have been twice at Consho. today to have more wheat put in, fences barred to keep out chickens, &c. Had the ground well prepared and nicely drilled in the wheat. Collected some rent, &c. Did a good deal of reading & correspondence, &c., &c.

Was disgusted today with an account of the way which the "New Lutheran Church" people at the corner of 5th Avenue and Harry Sts, Conshohocken, have acted to raise money to build and furnish the Church there. They had a meeting called to "Dedicate the Church," and had an itinerant money-beggar, a "smart, funny fellow," they called him, and very efficient in getting subscriptions. The way he proceeded there was to pass "cards to every person in the church and then while he cont'd. with his "speechifying" in his witty manner and telling what blessings God will bestow on the liberal givers; each one is to put down on his card or her card the amt. which they subscribe with the name attached. But he had told them before the great amounts he expected and that the names of the givers and amounts subscribed will be read to the audience. It was described to me as "a regular circus," just a noisy, rabble, shouting, laughing, joking as at an auction. Thousands of dollars were subscribed by men, working men, mechanics that have not a dollar in the world if they would pay their debts. They feared it would be thought they were poor if they did not show a big subscription as

their neighbors. Some persons not Lutherans, took a dollar or two, intending to drop them in the basket, but when the sharp scheme of the basket, but the announcement of the name & the card trick was to be announced, they did not sign or subscribe on the card but quickly kept their dollars in their pockets.

I consider their cunning barefacedness no better than Highway robbery.

October 12: Thursday.

Yesterday in the forenoon I "sat" for two hours while Mr. Hovenden, the justly celebrated Artist who painted "John Brown being led to Execution," "In the Hands of the Enemy," "Breaking Home Ties," (over this last one, the millions who have been and now are at the Worlds Fair in Chicago, are almost wild), while he sketched my outlines for a portrait. So too afternoon, nearly three hours more.

Wrote letters to Aunt Harriet Foulke, Aunt Hannah Bacon, [and] others last evening. Palp. twice today, but both times went off without taking the water, as I was going to get it. Have had but little trouble with it for a few days and yet only take the 1/12 of a grain of morph. twice a day in the "Elixir of Bark [Quinine], Iron & Strychnia." Sleep well under it too.

Noon. Have sat for my portrait since 9 ½ A.M. It is pretty tiresome, would be very much so were it not that Mr. Hovenden & self engage in a good deal of conversation.

Had a letter from Joseph and one from my niece Dr. Sarah Read Adamson Dolley of Rochester, N. York, enclosing money, interest on a five hundred note, only a part, though, of the interest only fifteen dollars she sent.

October 13: Friday.

Up at 6 ½ A.M. Had slept well between the four waking and getting up intervals. Had eaten a good supper of Corn-fritters, coffee, &c., and a large apple after 9 P.M. just as I was ready to go to bed. Am feeling quite well. Wind strong from the East, very foggy, &c.

9 P.M. The wind is terrific and is accompanied by rain. There will be disaster on the southern coast again. There was [were a] hundred, some reports after a weeks investigation speak of at least 1500 people lost, on the various islands near the mainland from Charleston to the gulf.

As bad a blow is predicted for tonight & now it seems as though the prophecy will be verified.

October 14: Saturday.

Sat for my portrait yesterday and day before, a good many hours each day. It is a tiresome thing to pose. I went again this morning, but Mr. Hovenden had been called in haste, by Telegraph, to Chicago, and had gone before I got to the studio. Right glad I was of it. I had gotten up early. Had been very busy with many matters and had had one strong attack of palp., but my remedy the ice-water stopped it at once. So, I got my mail & came home & took a rest, read the paper, &c. The news from the Senate is not cheering. The attempts to force a vote by an unremitted Session night & day failed after

[space], because the parties were worn out. It looks now as if there must be a compromise amongst the divided democrats, and those in favor of it are almost

afraid to do it, for fear the President will veto it. He is a stubborn old fellow, his friends call it firmness, quite a misnomer.

At 4 P.M. had Mary at her sister Susan in Conshohocken to meet Dr. De Forrest Willard, the orthopedic surgeon to examine her limbs and see if she can be helped to walk better. She can scarcely walk at all now even with a cane. We met; he thinks the Tendo[n] Achilles should be cut on both legs.

October 15: Sunday.

Rather a poor night. Palp. early after rising. Ice-water fixed it. Read the whole of the Friends Intelligencer & Journal. Then went to Meeting. Two sermons. Not a word did I hear scarcely. Palp. attacked me while sitting there, but I held on a brief time intending to wait until the speaker closed, and directly it ceased. Found Jay & Susan here when I returned.

October 17: Tuesday.

Therm. at 32° at sunrise. Heaviest kind of frost over every thing.

I had not written anything about Monday, so will say now that I was very busy about things needful as I supposed, until eleven o'clock Tuesday. Then I went to the funeral of my niece Sarah Corson Garretson, daughter of my brother Alan W. Corson. She had been poorly for some years, but no suffering of consequence. She lived with her daughter Mary Livezey, wife of Wm. P. Livezey, near to Plymouth Friends Meeting, where she was kindly cared for by her two daughters Mary & Anna. And as she had money enough to pay well for her board, it suited them all right well. Nobody could have treated her more kindly and affectionately. She was as happy a woman as any one I have ever known. She did not have trifles disturb her in the least, nor even big troubles, so regarded by others, troubled her much.

Afternoon. Susan Lukens, my daughter, and Dr. Anna Lukens of New York came to see me. Anna was a pupil with me, the second one. Sarah Adamson, now Dr. Dolley, was the first. It was an agreeable visit Still it--- Here I was interrupted.

October 18: Wednesday.

4 P.M. I have forgotten what I was going to add to "Still it." I slept well last night save that I was awake and up 6 times after 9 P.M. I am taking no med. & no Tonic, &c., as I have been doing for some weeks with a break of two or three days occasionally.

The medicine I had been taking was so little that the stopping it ought not to affect me much, only 1/12th or at most 1/8th of morph. in a whole day & only 1/60th gr. Strychnia twice a day. The morph. constipated my bowel. Now having taken none for three days, they are relieved of all that.

How fearful must have been the condition of my friend Dr. Forwood of Maryland when he was taking 3 grs, 3 times a day, and had been taken a great deal for years, and how futile his efforts to stop taking it when broken in health and aged!

I was very busy all the forenoon at Norristown seeing about my affairs, and to start the man to pave at Tacie's. Got home 12 ½ noon, dined, slept two hours and now am here again feeling pretty weak, but not more so than when taking the Strychnia and anodyne, and if I can rest well tonight, I will try to hold on my way as I am doing now.

Though Dr. Wood and other great physicians say I ought, all old people ought to take a little anodyne and some wine or other alcoholic stimulant every day.

Cont'd. my non-anodyne & non-tonic treatment all this day but became very weak and disposed to lie down, but as I was busy, could not do it. In the evening worried along till bed-time, keeping up my spirits and reading & writing, &c. Have had no palp. for three days nearly. Got to bed at 9 P.M., but could not keep my limbs from jumping. So I took a teaspoonful of the Elixir & two of the weak solution. They relieved me greatly. I could lie still but could not sleep.

October 19: Thursday.

7 A.M. But this morning I feel pretty well. Up at 6, and feel pretty brisk.

9 P.M. I have had five spells of palp. today. Went at 9 A.M. to pose for my portrait, got it [palp.], had to come home. Took it off by the use of ice-water. After a few minutes I threw myself on the lounge. At once it was on me again. Got up & stopped it with a tumbler of the water. In ten minutes it was back upon me. Stopped it after taking water three times. It had not been cold enough. Then took dinner. At 2 P.M. went to the studio, sat two hours, came home but was attacked on the way. Stopped it and then took 30 drops Tct. Digitalis, a teaspoonful of Tict. of Kamaica Ginger and 1/16 [gr.] of morph. Had none since.

October 20: Friday.

6 ½ A.M. Slept well last night and am pretty well this morning.

Had two more letters from Governors last evening, Massachusetts & New York, and also State and district "Reports," gotten up in book form.

9 P.M. Sat several hours for Mr. Hovenden. No palp. Men selling apples and [doing] other work. Letters & papers as usual by mail. Senate proceedings very interesting but not encouraging for compromise or even for other useful result.

While at breakfast, Bertie Yocom told Mary & self of a Reception the girls of the University Biological Department were invited to, by Dr. Jayne of the Medical Department. What a change from twenty or thirty years ago! When the Students of the Woman's College were hissed at and insulted in many ways. On two occasions, once at Pennsylvania Hospital at 8th & Pine Sts., once at the Blockley, in the hope that my being with them would protect them. Here now, Dr. Jayne, Bertie says, was as attentive as possible to the girls. The professors, their wives, the students (male) all there, and they would have had a pleasant time but that it was the fearful stormy night, which along the southern coast did such fearful damage, in loss of life & property.

October 21: Saturday.

This has been a dark and cloudy day. I could not pose. Mr. Hovenden thought it would not do. Had the yards cleaned up, &c., &c.

The Senate reports not encouraging. Had a letter from Joseph who is enjoying himself in listening to the Senators in this great attempt to "repeal the Sherman Bill" and, if that cannot be done, to effect a compromise that will relieve the present distress among all classes.

October 22: Sunday.

Read the Friends Intelligencer, all of it, before Jawood & Susan came at 10 A.M. Afternoon, read and wrote as impulse moved me. At home all day. Friend Robert Hatton and daughter called, gave us a short visit and a pitcher full of Apple-butter. She had heard me say that I was fond of it. So as they had made some, she brot it along. It was very kind and the butter was good. Friend Hatton's mother was a Foulke, a relative to the mother of my children. He is too a favorite preacher in the Hicksite Society of Friends. Lives near here now. Read aloud to Mary and Bertha Yocom Jr. some of Paul's Epistles.

October 23: Monday.

9 P.M. Very rainy. Read a good deal of English History by Mr. Markham, a school History. Wrote letters, &c., in forenoon. Thinking the rain over, went at 1 P.M. to Norristown. Soon began to rain again but I went on, did what I needed to do and was home by 4 P.M. [It] rained all the time.

In afternoon, after 4 P.M., continued reading English History. In the evening read letters and replied to those rec'd. by the morning and evening mail.

October 24: Tuesday.

Morning. Slept pretty well, but sweat profusely because of the night being warm, the heat coming from the parlor fire, though the register was shut, and having too many covers on me, so feel not so strong as Sampson or Goliath.

I have spoken of reading English History. Have gotten as far as King Canute. Starting at the time of Christ's advent, or just before, and coming up to Canute, we cannot without a faith that can remove mountains, believe that the Lord directed all these murders and oppressions of an ignorant people. The early Britons were but little above the animals which we regard without souls. They had no written language, no more than the lower animals. They lived in caves, &c. 1800 years have passed and through innumerable savage wars they have gradually risen to have written and spoken language and are humane and enlightened in all good works. The old Patriarchs, Bedouin Arabs, were but little higher at one time of their history. What a beautiful fable that, that puts Adam & Eve in a garden, already grown, and endowed with language and a quick sense of right and wrong. This to all our Christians, so called, is the starting place of the race. It is pleasant to look back & see how grandly we started, the lords & masters of all other created beings. But what were the real facts? The History of the English people as well as the early histories of the inhabitants of the "Islands of the Sea," and of all countries make answer that man was a savage animal.

We owe thanks to Darwin for his theory of Evolution. Since he called the attention of scientists to that fact, we can see it in all things animate and inanimate.

Evening. The mail brot me books, pamphlets, letters and postals in abundance today. One postal from Ithaca, N. York. The program of Tompkins Co. Med. Society in which a discussion is to be held Thursday next, on Pneumonia, and Extracts read from a paper on that subject by Hiram Corson, M.D. of Pa.

October 25: Wednesday.

Rose at 6, dressed to go to Phila. at 8 or 9, if Mr. Hovenden did not want me to sit

for the portrait. He did not and I took the Cars at Sp. Mill, leaving my horse tied in my friend John Righter's yard. At a few minutes after 9 was at Dr. Hannah Longshore's, 1326 Arch St., returned the diary of her husband, which I had had for several months. Then went to 16th & Walnut to see Dr. Willard, arranged with him that he come and operate on Mary's foot on Saturday, 28th, to be at 4:10 at Sp. Mill. Then passed up to 7627 to see John B. Roberts and talk with him about an address of his favoring consultation with Homeopaths who do not stick to that but use just such measures as we do.. Spent 20 minutes perhaps, brought his sister-in-law down stairs to see me, as she had heard so much of me & wished to see me. Left and called at Dr. James Tyson's on Spruce St. & 15th, 1506 Spruce. Spent ¼ hour with him & Mrs. Tyson. Then went a square towards Broad St., 1406, to see Dr. Goodell. Found him on the Street. A few minutes with him, then took a Broad St. Coach and went to 747 S. Broad to see Bertha & family. Then it was 11 ½ A.M. She insisted on getting me a lunch. In a few minutes I got palp. They soon had some ice-water, which quickly arrested it, and by this time she had lunch., stewed oysters, celery, crackers, tea, &c. Disposing of that, I walked down Fitzwater St. to 13th & took the cars. A gentleman stopped across to me and I found Dr. William B. Atkinson, the long-time Sec. of the State and National Medical Societies before me. I took the Cars down Chestnut to the Farmers & Mechanics Bank & then went to Phila. Bank, arranged with both to send my Dividends to me when declared. Then I went into Drexel Building to see Dr. Markley but he was not in his office. From there went to Market St. & 5th, took the cars to Reading depot, waited half an hour and at 1:32 P.M. took the train for home. Just as I was about to get in the train, daughter Susan tapped me on the shoulder, and then we got in and made our way to Spring Mill where my horse was waiting for me, and I was soon at home, at 2:30 P.M.

In the evening, letter from Joseph & others.

October 26: Thursday.

Posed for my portrait. Went to Norristown and paid several visits, did some business, &c., read and wrote a good deal in the evening. Rec'd. five letters.

October 27: Friday.

Too cloudy for Mr. Hovenden to work. Five letters by the morning mail, one from Dr. Willard that our friend Dr. Kerlin is deceased & he will not come to operate on Mary's contracted tendon until some day next week. Have staid at home nearly all day. Once went to Conshohocken, got palp. before I reached there, but kept on and after riding a mile or so, just as I reached Jawood's, it went off. I had palp. also just after breakfast. The men are picking apples. What loads of them we have. James took some to Conshohocken today, sold \$6.50 worth. Oh! how plenty of apples, potatoes, tomatoes, cabbage, celery, beans, wheat 150 bushels, corn as much.

How thankful we should be, are so I believe. As I write, have rec'd. from the Rev'd. Mr. Sheppard of the Conshohocken Presbyterian Church an invitation to attend his Church Sunday next at 10 ½ A.M. to hear him discourse on Temperance. Will probably go. Dr. Mary Dixon Jones, Gynecological Surgeon of Brooklyn, N. Y., wants letters of introduction to prominent surgeon in this State.

October 28: Saturday.

At 10 A.M. took the Cars to Manayunk to see the reported case of Hydrophobia there advertised. At the station met a police officer who had gone with him to see our Dr. Frey, mad dog doctor yesterday, and early this morning took the patient to Pennsylvania Blockley Hospital. From him got a good report of the case. Home before one P.M.

Afternoon went to Norristown to look for a hat suitable for me. There learned from the Hatter, old Mr. Sullivan, valuable information about the case of John Earnest who died a few years since of Hydrophobia, from a bite of a mad dog., it is said. I don't think it was a real case. Thus, I am gathering facts for my paper to be read before our County Society. Palp. at Tacie's. Ice water arrested it at once. Very busy till bed-time. The man died today after getting to the hospital.

October 29: Sunday.

Read the Friends Intelligencer & Journal in its entirety, before 10 o'clock. Then went to Conshohocken and got Jawood & Susan to go with me to hear the sermon on Temperance as per invitation from Rev'd. Mr. Sheppard. An excellent discourse it was. Their new church is a beautiful one inside as well as outside. Such a discourse certainly will do good. At home in afternoon. Jay and Susan here to tea. Staid till 8 P.M., a very pleasant visit.

The church people seemed greatly pleased that we came. All knew me and also knew Jay & Susan. Three palps. today. Water efficient.

October 30: Monday.

Took nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. sulph. morph. during yesterday. So, slept better than I have been doing when not taking any and had no palp. during the night. Was very busy in forenoon, writing & getting letters and in taking Frannie Yocom to station & bringing Georgie, her sister, back. Good girls.

Afternoon went to Norristown to learn more about the mad dog case, the Jn^o Earnest case. Found the man who was bitten at the same time that Earnest was. Earnest died, he got well. Am to see him again in a day or two when he may have more time for details.

October 31: Tuesday.

"Posed" today an hour or two before & after dinner. The head and face he seems to consider finished; to me the face seems to weak and innocent looking, but I will make no remarks. One man selling apples today, the other husking corn.

The "Press" maintains its Character for suicides and murders, fresh ones every day. They amaze me. But nearly everybody in cities and country towns and villages down to boys of 12 to 15 years of age carry revolvers. I never carried or had a "firearm" in my house during the 60 years of my practice, and never was molested.

The murder by a young man of Mayor Harrison of Chicago was announced last Sunday. The man said he had promised him an office & had not given it to him. The lawyers will now attempt to prove him crazy. How strange it seems that a man of common sense should for a trifling offence make himself believe that he was justified in killing another and thus causing distress to many innocent people, and bring upon himself

death by the gallows. Should a murderer even escape, and they nearly all try to do so, life is thereafter a misery, without an hour's relief.

It is nearly nine o'clock, my bed-time, and I have just rec'd. from my gd. daughter, by mail, a newspaper article entitled, "Hovenden the Artist." It is in relation to the admiration of thousands who saw "Breaking Home Ties" at the Fair & an account of him & his family.

At 2 ½ P.M. I quit posing for the Artist, came home and at 3 ½ started for Spring Mill to meet Surgeon Dr. Forrest Willard. He came and when we reached home, Dr. Ellwood and daughter Susan were here. The two Doctors were quickly at the operation of dividing the contracted tendons Achilles on the hind part of the ankle. Mary bore it pretty well, though one them was so firmly adherent to its sheath as to delay it a little and make it harder to bear. After they were divided, he put large flakes of cotton and wool, very elastic, all over the foot, save the toes, and over the top of it all, plaster of Paris bandages, so that in a few minutes they were enveloped in two solid casings to hold the feet in proper place. She complained somewhat of soreness in the one that had been adherent and required more cutting than the other.

Mary Cunningham slept in the little room and I in mine, and all the doors were wide open. Three times in the night a gentle knock awakened me, and we got up and attended to shift her position, &c. "Tildy," too, our woman, also gave good help in some ways.

November 1: Wednesday.

This morning she is sleeping and seems comfortable. I have just written to Joseph about it,

8 P.M. I posed from 10 o'clock until noon and then Thomas reported the portrait finished. It was a relief to me to hear him say that, as I have been greatly pressed to do all that I laid out for myself the past month.

When I got home from Norristown, I had before me the taking of Georgie to Sp. Mill, where I was to meet Bertha (mother Bertha) at 10:15 and Georgie to take the 11:59 for home. So I drove out to see if the day was bright enough for Thomas to paint and if so, to be excused till noon or after dinner. He was anxious to go on, so Helen, good woman that she is, offered to take my carriage, take Georgie down & bring Bertha up. That suited all around, and I posed, Thomas painted and at 5 min. of 12 he announced a finish. Now during these two hours, as I sat there, I had palp. twice, but sat still and neither of them lasted more than a few minutes.

At 3:30 Ellwood came. I had gotten Mary to sit on a chair, with her feet on a pillow on the floor, and Ellwood had her to stand on them and take a step or two and told her that it must be done a few times more today. She is quite comfortable in the chair, save that the cramp occurs occasionally as it was wont to do when she was well at night. She is much encouraged. I feel confident that she will walk much better, but I also think that the "ham strings" are also a little contracted. Indeed there is a tendency, has been a long time to contraction of tendons all over her. Her hands, though, are less so, then years ago. Then I feared they would become useless.

Bertha sent Frannie, her daughter, in her place.

Thomas & Helen intend to leave for Washington on Saturday, so Ellwood told me this afternoon. What I have written of this afternoon's work I wrote to Joseph. I mean I forgot that I was writing in my book, thought I was writing to him.

Palp. three times this afternoon. What would become of me, had I no ice-water? How long I have been troubled with these attacks, and what a busy life I have led and yet here I am in my 90th year.

November 3: Friday.

9 P.M. Though I had palp so often yesterday, I had none last night. Slept well. Mary seems comfortable and has walked a few steps today. Frannie came today. I met her at 10:42 at Spr. Mill. Susan, too, was here today. Both think my portrait good. I went for it today, but Mr. Hovenden wishes to have it exhibited at the Art-Club. I have written a note to Helen this evening to say that they may keep it wherever they want it, that if they will choose a frame and send me the bill, and also the bill for painting the portrait, I will send a check at once.

Wrote several letters today after dinner, to Joseph, Mr. Charles Jn. Foulke, Joseph Tunis, M.D., Miss Mary Roberts, sister to Dr. John B. Roberts, Phila. National Bank Cashier; to Cashier Kensington Bank; to Helen and Harriet Foulke.

Sold 18 dols. worth corn fodder and \$14 of apples the past two days.

November 4: Saturday.

Very dull, dark I should have said, and rainy. My heart seemed weak and irregular when I rose and for some hours after. I had an appointment to see Dr. Custer in Manayunk this morning, but it was so raining, and the business not urgent, so did not go.

After dinner I went to Norristown, took Frannie Yocom along to Tacie's. It was very rainy, but as I had Jimmy along to drive, I did a good many things, made a deposit in Bank, got eatables, ice, &c.

It has rained copiously today. Mary walked more today. At 5 P.M. I think she will be greatly improved in her locomotion.

At noon Helen came over to bid us farewell. She is on her way to Washington with all her family, her children & her two hired girls. Her husband went to New York, by request of the publishers of copies of his painting, "Breaking Home Ties." Thirty copies are made every week, and as no one can be sold without his signature, he may afford to go to New York occasionally. From New York, Mr. Hovenden will today go to Washington, without stopping here or in Phila.

My Portrait Finished Yesterday, when I was 89 years and 26 days old. (Born Oct. 8, 1804), and it was brought home this forenoon by Helen as she was on her way to Washington to spend the winter with her Sister Ida Corson, to whom her Uncle George Maulsby, Surgeon in the U. States Navy, left \$100,000.

Mary and myself will miss them greatly. Helen is such a business person. It seems as though she can turn her hand, effectively to almost every thing. I think her portrait of my brother William is one of the most striking portraits I have ever seen. The expression of the face is simply correct in every feature. My portrait is said to be "very good" but to me it is not so. As I told Thomas, the artist, "it is too innocent looking." I doubt not, that it is most "correct in detail." But that I don't care about. The expression

common on my face is what I like. And yet what difference does it make? In a thousand years none. Absolutely none.

We will be lonely when they go away, very lonely. I do hope we shall continue in health. Should Mary be able to walk better, that will be a comfort to us. Two palps. today.

November 5: Sunday.

Read the Intelligencer, Friends. "Jay & Susan" came at 10 A.M. After dinner I went to Manayunk in the train about 2 o'clock. Went to see Dr. Custer and learn particulars of the Hydrophobia case, which proved fatal there a few days ago. Returned in the 3:26 train. Had a satisfactory visit.

November 6: Monday.

Engaged in various matters in forenoon. Went to Norristown, to see some people in various lines of business, and to bring back with me my gd. daughter Mary Cresson to be company for daughter Mary, while she shall have to remain up-stairs.

November 7: Tuesday.

9 P.M. Steadily engaged from early breakfast time until eleven o'clock in getting up replies to inquiries about my graduation and my career since, a host of questions as the Alumni Association wishes to get up a full record of the graduates of the University since its beginning. At 11 A.M. went to the Election at Barren Hill.

In the afternoon, went to see Miss Hannah Stout, and to bleed her if that should be needed. It seems, or would seem queer to another, that I should begin to practice again, but Miss Stout was crazy a few years ago, and since then, by request of Dr. Bennett of the Hospital, I have several times bled her to relieve the fullness of the blood vessels of the brain.

After supper till 9 P.M. [was] continuously engaged in answering the queries addressed to me by Dr. Tunis of the Alumni Society.

November 9: Thursday.

Went to Norristown Hospital after mail-time (9 o'clock). On my way up, palp. struck me. I had to bear it till I got to Norristown and got the ice-water at Ellwood's Office. After that, Ellwood took me in his carriage to the Hospital for the Insane, to see my Uncle Joshua Corson's grand daughter, who is there now for the third time a raving maniac. She is a genteel & very amiable woman. Dr. Bennett reported her to me as being better & likely to be well in a few days, as her spells were short before.

Staid at home in the afternoon. Had palp. three times before bed time.

November 13: Monday.

Friday, Saturday [and] Sunday, these days were spent in about the same way, reading, writing, going to Consho., Norristown, &c., &c. and whenever business or pleasure called. On Saturday afternoon, there was an Anniversary Reception at Wm. Livezey's house. The 25th anniversary of their wedding. About fifty people there, including children. It was gotten up without William & his wife knowing anything about it, until the people began to flock in on them. But Anna Garretson, sister to the wife, had "been in it" from first.

It is now 9 P.M. Monday evening. Daughter Bertha has gone home and her daughter Frannie has come to stay with daughter Mary who, I am pleased to be able to say, is doing well and able to walk better even though her feet are encased in the Calcined plaster cases.

November 18: Saturday.

Nearly a week has passed and I so engaged with my Hydrophobia paper and many other matters, besides an almost onerous correspondence that my diary has been neglected.

My Norristown friend, Mr. Ewart, a relative of Gladstone, died this week, will be buried today. A fine old man with whom I became acquainted some years ago, and who always seemed so pleased to see me when we met. He was free from care as regards money, boarded & enjoyed himself as well as his unmarried condition would allow.

Nothing out of the usual way to notice.

November 21: Tuesday.

I slept well last night after taking two teaspoonsful of Paragoric [Paregoric] at bed time on account of a looseness of bowels which has troubled me if I do not occasionally take some of it; two teaspoonsful equals on 14 drops of laudanum. Was awake only three times, but felt weak when I rose this morning, but have not taken any medicine or any tonic or stimulant. Have almost no appetite. Have sent two small loads of wheat, 58 Bushels and 27 pounds at 67 cts. = \$39.16

I feel very weak but as I have no palpitation since yesterday morning, and not then for several days before so frequently, when I was trying to prevent them by 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. and some digitalis daily. I will hold on, not even take paregoric unless needed on account of pain & diarrhea. Still if I were to ride out now, instead of being about the house, I would feel as usual I think.

November 23: Thursday.

The Anniversary of the wedding of Isaac Styer and Marth. Corson (daughter of Alan W. Corson and Mary Egbert his wife), 45 years ago today.

I went up, was there at 12 o'clock. The invitation was for eleven o'clock. There were about fifty persons in all, I think, Styers, Corsons, Egberts and persons intermarried with them and descendants from them. I was, of course, far the oldest person there. The next oldest was my niece, Hannah Richie, Alan's oldest daughter.

November 24: Friday.

Sold 25 Bushels wheat at 67 cts for seventeen Dollars and ten Cents.

Am pretty well and active today. Took off Mary's bandages. Poor girl, I fear she will not be able to walk much better because of her stiffness in hips & knees. We shall see very soon, I hope.

November 25: Saturday.

Pretty cold. Therm. only 24° at sunrise, 32° at noon. Three palps. after dinner within half hour, put off with the water.

November 26: Sunday.

Frannie Day came after dark yesterday. Jay's man brot her from Conshohocken.

Afternoon. I went to Chestnut Hill taking Jimmy with me, after 2 P.M. & after he had returned from taking Frannie Day to Sp. Mill to the train for home. My visit to "the Hill," was to see an imbecile young man, George Streeper, to see if he is properly cared for. Complaints have been made, and some years ago the father was brought before the Court, because he did not treat him well, and he was sent to the Hospital for insane. Afterward was allowed to be taken home, provided (the court said), Dr. Hiram Corson be allowed freedom to see him whenever he chose to call.

Today I found him looking clean and nice, but I did not see his room. He was bro't down immediately on my getting into the house, though it was quite an unusual length of time that I was kept knocking first at one door, then at another before I was admitted. It occurred to me on my return that possibly they had seen me at the near neighbors, John Faber Miller, before I came to their house.

Spent nearly half an hour at Mr. Miller's beautiful home. Himself I had attended when a child, knew his family well, and just as I arrived at his house today, his mother also arrived. It was quite a pleasant meeting.

After my visit to Streepers, I called on an old acquaintance, Charles Heydrick and found him, though only 82 years old, very, very old-looking. Then we went through Flourtown to the Whitmarsh Valley Road and on home. "There is no place like home." Even the mention of it fills the page.

November 28: Tuesday.

9 P.M. Yesterday I was at Norristown in the forenoon, doing several things. After dinner busy until 4 P.M. when just as I was about to start to Spring Mill to bring up Frannie Yocom. Isaac Roberts came to see me about my views in relation to reputed cases among or in the lime stone stratum, which occupies this valley, and the probable source of the great spring at Spring Mill, which pours out its 2200 gallons per minute year after year be the season wet or dry. So I sent Jimmy and had my talk with Isaac at our leisure. I told him of the stream in the bottom of Samuel Maulsby's well of the supposed cavern under the turnpike opposite the house just this side of the lane that leads down Plymouth Creek which was so very sonorous when horses & carriages went over it when I was young and which is there in minor degree even now. Also the "sink-hole" as we called it just at the edge of the old quarry on the Josiah Albertson property (once the home of the Dickinsons, my mothers home, too, when she was young), a hole into which tradition of Wm. Livezey and Josiah Albertson's sons informs us that they threw a large body of Chaff into, then went down to the big Spring and saw it come out and cover the surface of the water in the Spring & race. It is a wonderful spring, but from whence it comes I know not.

In my mind connect the stream in the Maulsby well (now owned by brother George's daughter Helen Hovenden. The cavern under the Turnpike road, and the sink hole as parts of a great tunnel in the Limestone beds of this valley and which goes on to the great Spring Mill spring.

So this ends Monday's work.

[Today] much engaged in my books till 10 A.M., then started in the carriage alone to Ambler on business. Did not see the man I wanted. Came back to see Hannah Stout, below the Broad-axe tavern, from there home by ¼ of an hour of one P.M.

At 2 P.M. took Frannie Yocom with me and went again to see the idiot man, not being satisfied with my Sunday visit, as I then did not see him in his room, or den, as such abodes for idiots are called. When I was "invited in" by Mrs. Streeper, I told her that I wanted to see her son in his room. She was reluctant to take me to him, but I told her complaints had been made that he was badly treated and Lawyer Rogers wished me to see him and that should she refuse me, it would be regarded as almost a proof that he was not fit to be seen and was neglected. She then took me up, and I was pleased to find every thing comfortable for him. It is not needful to particularize. He is well cared for. The room well furnished and almost free of offensive odor. It is almost remarkable that it should be so in as much as he urinates and defecates, without giving the least warning, in the bed, in his clothes, standing, or sitting, or lying in the bed.

I will make a favorable report. Home just before sunseting.

November 30: Thursday.

Thanksgiving Day, 9 A.M. Took a man with me to my Wood-lot in Upper Merion, on Gulf Hill, to see if I could cut posts for wire-fence. Home by half past twelve, though I did not start till nearly ½ past ten. Up to that time I had been steadily writing my paper on Garlicky milk for publication.

Dr. Charles Thomas asked yesterday for some account of the aid, if any, given to me in my work before the Legislature by the Woman's Medical College. So, I wrote him a detailed account of how I had carried it on without the aid of a single one of them, or of a single Phila. physician. Then I cont'd. on other matters till Ellwood, wife, son & daughter came at 4 P.M.. After supper I resumed work until bed-time, that is now.

Had 3 attacks of palpitation while at the work.

December 1: Friday.

9 P.M. Cool pleasant morning. The papers filled with the doings of the Foot Ball Ruffians from every State almost, murders, suicides, wrecks of rail roads and on Sea, and yet the millions are gay and happy. Well, that is best. But the thousands who are out of work and out of food don't see things in the same light as the happy, well-fed thousands.

I took my 14 year old boy, whom I am sending to school at about 37 dols. a year expense, Friends Meeting School, to Norristown today and bought him a nice suit of winter clothes (for \$7). He does not board with us, but as his father is my farmer and has a large family, I felt that I had better buy him a suit. All that he does for me is to do knick-knacks.

Frannie Yocom is here staying with Mary in her helpless condition; Hiram has been here since the day before Thanksgiving Day; Thomas, their brother, came to supper & for the night.

December 6: Wednesday.

Not much unusual has occurred since last writing. The Yocom children all left

on Sunday afternoon and Mary & self have been alone since.

Last Saturday, Prof. Rand of the University of Pa. called to see me and learn if possible of the source of the great spring at Spring Mill. I went with him, showed him the reputed "sink-hole" at Wrangle-town^{viii}, now Lancasterville, where it has long been believed by many that Chaff was thrown in and that it afterwards came out at the Spring near to Spring Mill. Then I took him to brother George's old home, where there was a strong stream of water in the well, his father-in-law Samuel Maulsby used to tell me, passed through it, and was supposed to come from the sink-hole in the open-quarry at Wrangle-town. Alongside of the well, as was usual in those days, about 1830,, which was perhaps 12 or 15 feet deep and had a long row of steps leading down to the bottom of it. The bottom was laid with flat stones. There was an opening in the wall of the well two or three feet wide and as high. This was so that they could catch the bucket when brought up by some one at the windlass on top, so that they could have water needed in the cave. The walls of the cave were of stone and plastered inside. This was used for many years at the time 1828 to 1833 while I boarded at his son Jonathan's, the two houses being only about 20 feet apart., the kitchens nearly 40 feet and facing each other, and the well between the two kitchens. Some thirty or more years ago, the bottom of this cave fell out, and they have closed and fastened the door that led down the stairs. As the well became thus choked up, they have never since cleaned out the fallen stone and never used it. But this shows that there must have been a large cavern there, under the cave. It is matter of regret to me that they did not explore the concern, as the roof of the cave which was a stone arch is still intact, I suppose as there is no depression in the ground over it. For five years my office and bed room was within about 20 or 25 feet of the top of the well, the windows looking out over it.

We then drove $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile nearly up to the turnpike road towards Hickorytown and passed over a spot where sixty or seventy years ago, and long before that time, I recollect it eighty years ago, when a wagon passed over it, it caused a sound like that made by a wagon passing over a bridge. He discovered the sound, but it is very faint now compared with the sound of the long time ago, then at once turning to the left a hundred yards or more took us into the yard of my ancestor, Wm. Dickinson, of 1680 or thereabouts, now the Albertson Home, where a son-in-law of Josiah Albertson, Frank Ramsey, now lives. Mr. Rampsey then took us about a hundred yards back from the house and into the quarry where the sink-hole is, but has been by Mr. R. covered up so that nothing could fall in. Here it was that when I was a boy at Friends Plymouth School eighty years ago, and for some years later, we used to throw in sticks & stones to hear the latter rumbling down. Here, too, it was said, chaff was thrown in and afterwards was seen on the surface of the water of the big spring near to Sp. Mill.

Further than that Wm. Livezey told me, but a few days ago, that when the quarry was worked and no dirt covering the rocks, they often applied their ear to a crack in the rocks and could hear the water running as a stream a distance further down. This too was said by Sam'l. Maulsby to me that the water in the bottom of his well was not a pool as on common wells, but a stream, which when the bucket touched it would carry it towards the west, and so we concluded that it ran across the turnpike road where the hollow sound was heard, and then still westward to the sink-hole in the Albertson quarry, and then west and south to Spring Mill spring.

After all this on Saturday, I left after dinner for Norristown and did some things there. Such is my account of last Saturday's doings. I was pleased with Prof. Rand. I took him while at Lancasterville to see the Conglomerate rock behind the School House, as we go up the narrow, little-used road that passes up through the woods. He said, "it is the Triass, or New Red Sand stone where it joins the Eurite Hill." It is the border-line of the formation that extends over all the upper part of our Country. Prof. Rand was quite surprised when I showed him in my cabinet a flat piece of it that I had cut & polished. It was almost as handsome as the Reading Conglomerate.

December 7: Thursday.

9 P.M. I did not get quite through showing Prof. Rand the sink-holes of the region, as I did not then think of all of them. Some forty years ago, a caving took place in the middle of the road almost opposite the house in which George Wilson then lived, the first house this side of James Coulston's, down which the water from both directions rushed and was soon out of sight.

Nearly at the same time a caving took place in the road which passes from here to Spring Mill. It was just below the line that divides George Keys' land from Channing Pott's land. There was a small hole in the road and south west from that inside of Pott's field, a large opening, at least 40 feet I think, pointing directly to the open marble quarry further on; also a small opening between the one in the road and the large opening in the field and in the direct line between the two. These I did not show to Prof. Rand.

It is now Thursday and I have no note of the days since then. Sunday I was at home as usual, reading and writing. Jawood and Susan were here before dinner as usual. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday I was quite busy in the usual way, and as the Congress convened on Monday, we had on Tuesday & since much news from that body. The Hawai [Hawaii] question it was supposed would be the important topic of the Message, almost if not as exciting one as the Tariff, but he gave almost no attention to them. He has acted secretly to return the Queen of the Sandwich Islands to the throne from which she was displaced by a revolution there gotten up by the people of Honolulu. He did not even let the Democracy know a word of it, nor let the Congress know what he was doing, though they were in session at the time, the extra session that he had called about the Silver question. Today's paper has some interesting short speeches in it, on a Resolution asking the President to furnish all the correspondence that has taken place on that subject. The resolution was passed yesterday. But the real fight has not yet begun.

Thursday's special work (today's work). First let me say I have had three palps. every day this week, and had one attack one night. This morning young [space] Foulke, son-in-law of Mark Jones & son of Daniel Foulke, son of Joseph, the Quaker Preacher, came to tell me (thinking I was an agent of the "Cruel Animals Society") the Preacher, Joel Lare's [Lair] horse was badly treated. I visited Joel & his wife and inspected the stable. I found that the horse had plenty to eat, but little work, but a stable that had not been cleaned I think for months. It was a great mass of dung into which the horses feet sank deeply, because there was & had not been the least bedding all this time. I saw Friend Lare [Lair] & wife, & they apologized for its not having been better attended to. We had a pleasant talk and I left. Mr. Foulke who made the complaint is likely to turn out to be a poor affair, wrote Joseph.

After dinner I went to Bank to draw some money on small checks sent to me. Then went to the Business College and paid \$32 for a three months course for Annie Cresson. Then to the Herald office to have my pamphlet on "The Recognition of Women Physicians by the Profession" and what I did to get the law to have "female Insane to be cared for only by women doctors." After that went to the Hospital for the Insane to see the two chief physicians on medical affairs. Home before quite dark. Snow on the ground the last two days.

December 8: Friday.

Saml. Streeper, Peter's son, an old man and my friend, buried today. Rode to Consho. on business. Dull, disagreeable day. Wrote late on my Hydrophobia paper & examined authorities.

December 9: Saturday.

Staid at home reading & writing till noon. Afternoon went to Tacie's and took her with me to the Woman's Suffrage meeting in Norristown. Only 10 of us there, one man, Isaac Roberts, besides me. A rainy afternoon. Ground covered snow, the turnpike & streets muddy, muddy! The meeting was quite interesting. Mrs. Dr. Beaver presided & Ella Thomas acted as Secretary. Mrs. Samuel Tyson, daughter of Senator Jonathan Roberts, the ablest Senator Pennsylvania ever had in the United States Senate, also read an interesting paper in memory of Lucy Stone. Isaac Roberts spoke, and I made a few remarks. The Secy. read several other papers, that I could not make out being too dull of hearing.

At 4 P.M. just as I was thinking it time for me to leave for home, as it was so dark we had to turn on the light, I was attacked by palp. So, went to Ellwood's office and got some cold water, drank two tumblers full, but it was not cold enough. Then Jimmy brought the carriage to Tacie & self and took Tacie home, and afterwards brought me home with palp. on me all the time. Gotten home I took the real cold water and was soon well.

December 10: Sunday.

Up at 7. Read the whole of Friends Intelligencer & Journal after breakfast and before 10 ½ o'clock. Then Jay & Susan came and staid till 12 ¼. Had a good talk about the holders of land in Lower Merion sixty years ago. I could give them nearly all the information they needed of all the region from Conshohocken to Radnor & in Radnor, and from there to the "War Office," now "Merion Square" and from there three miles below Conshohocken up to that town. Also from Consho. north of Matson Ford road to Gulf and from Gulf to King of Prussia & from there to Valley Forge. For miles eastward I knew almost every house clear across to Penllyn and Flourtown & Chestnut Hill.

December 11: Monday.

All this day nearly I have been at home. Yesterday I resolved to take not even the small dose of anodyne that I had been taking every evening about six o'clock to enable me to rest well. I tried it twice times ago and both times bowel complaint, or rather griping and an urgent desire to defecate, and so this morning even before I rose the slight, or light griping pains began, and before breakfast I had to hurry myself so as not to

be too late as old men often are, and instead of constipation of moderate character, I now found myself with a great looseness of bowels. So I resumed my dose, a teaspoonful paregoric with 1/24th gr. morph. After a second dose I became easy. I shall not let off my usual dose again I think, inasmuch as it prevents looseness of bowels and enables me to sleep well.

Have for two hours ransacked every nook & corner for my pamphlet & my additional manuscript about Hydrophobia without avail.

December 13: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Nothing special happened to me. I went out in the carriage both days as usual. At home I was engaged in reading and taking notes from the Report of a Committee of the Am. Med. Assoc. comprising one hundred and one pages of the large volume of Transaction of 1856. I am not quite done with it yet. I am thus trying to thoroughly prepare myself to meet all objections to my views and answer knowingly all queries that may be put to me by those who have no belief in false Hydrophobia. There are 106 cases reported in this essay, most of them very minutely. I have but 40 pages to do now..

What a fearful disease this is, if a disease at all. Can it be altogether the result of fright.? In all the cases I have yet read, there is a close identity of symptoms, or of some of them. For example in all these hundred & six, the dread is not of water, but of swallowing.

Have had many letters. One to Gov. Pattison recommending Dr. E. A. Wood of Pittsburgh as a proper physician to be appointed one of the Board of Medical Examiners for the State. Yesterday the Private Secretary wrote to me that "only two pages had been received. The Governor would promptly reply if I could send the rest." I think the rest of it could be found on the other side of page two. If it could not, I could not supply it.

December 14: Thursday.

I also wrote a reply to Dr. E. A. Woods after his request that I commend him to the Governor about the "Bromide of Gold & Arsenic" that he recommends for Mary. He is very anxious we try it and will have the manufacturer to send me some.

Noon. Had letters from Joseph & from Dr. Goodell. The latter will have my paper on Milk published. Joseph wonderfully busy. I feel very dull & stupid now, 2 P.M.

December 15: Friday.

Slept pretty well, very well I may say, only that I got awake five times and always when I awoke got up & looked at the watch.

Had a long letter from son Joseph and several documents showing that he was accepted as a "Son of the Revolution" through our ancestor, my gd. father belonging in Revolutionary times to an organization called [empty space], which existed in Bucks County near to grand father's Home. I can, therefore, be eligible to membership. I think it would be proper for me to apply. Then my gd. children would be eligible.

The Quaker Girl of Winchester, by Alice Graham McCollin.

From the Ladies Home Journal for Dec. 1893, p. 9. In the City of Winchester, Virginia, Sheridan's Winchester, an officer of the Southern Army who had been wounded in one of the Virginia battles of the late war, [was] boarding throughout his convalescence in one of the many families of Southern sympathizers in that place. From the window of his sick room, he watched the garden next door, where two young women read, sewed, or gathered flowers. As his convalescence grew near its end, on the evening of the 14th of September, 1864, he called upon these neighbors and spent with them a few hours in conversation which was at once his entertainment and his cause's undoing.

Of these two women, one was a sympathizer with her State, the other with her Country, and as a matter of course, the conversation drifted upon the strength of the Confederate forces and upon the likelihood of General Early's detachment being reinforced by troops from Richmond. The Southern officer gave it as his opinion, founded upon knowledge, that General Early's force was very much estimated as to its numbers by the Northern Army. And that troops were so badly needed at Richmond that they were calling in forces instead of sending them out. To this he adds some specific information as to an artillery division which had been withdrawn from Early's command. Later in the evening he left his hostesses without a thought as to the ultimate effect of the night's conversation. One of them, by name Rebecca Wright, had been at the opening of the War a teacher in the Winchester school, but had been expelled from the position because of her loudly proclaiming sympathy with the Union. Collecting the children from the few Unionist families, she had opened a private school which had proved quite successful. On the second day after the evening's conversation with her southern guest, Miss Rebecca Wright was sitting in the school room during the noon recess. Her response to a knock at the door brought into the room an intelligent, well dressed colored man. Asking Miss Wright if she were entirely alone, he proceeded to close the doors of the room in a mysterious way. "I want to see Miss Wright. I want to see you," was his reply. "There are two Miss Wrights," said the school teacher. Perhaps thee wants to see my sister." "No I don't, your sister is not on our side. I want to see Miss Rebecca, the Unionist. I have a letter for her from General Sheridan." So saying he handed her a roll of tin-foil. Much amazed Miss Wright began to tear the tin-foil. "Don't do that ma'am," said the man. "You will need it to wrap the answer in. I carried the letter wrapped in it under my tongue, so that if I was arrested and searched, I could swallow it."

Before opening the letter Miss Wright asked the man several questions as to Sheridan's position, and being convinced of his honesty, told him that he might return at 3 o'clock for her reply. As soon as she was alone she opened the letter and read "Sep. 13, 1864. I have learned from Gen'l. Crook that you are a loyal lady and still love the old flag." "Can you inform of the position of Early and his forces, the number of divisions in his army and the strength of any, or all of them, and his probable, or reported intentions?" "I am very respectfully your most obedient Servant. P. F. Sheridan
Major General Commanding"
"You can trust the Bearer."

To say that Miss Wright was troubled as to what course to pursue, is to express mildly the doubts which beset her. In her perplexity she turned to her mother, also a strong Unionist, and after a long discussion decided to run the risk and take upon herself

the great responsibility. The conversation of the Confederate officer of a few evenings before formed the basis of her reply. Her letter was as follows, dated, but unsigned, and written in a clear, firm hand.

September 16, 1864

I have no communication whatever with the rebels, but will tell thee what I know.

The divisions of Gen'l's. Kershaw and Cutshaw's artillery twelve guns and men, General Anderson Commanding has been sent away, and no more troops are expected from Richmond, as they cannot be spared. I do not know how the troops are situated, but the force is much smaller than represented. I will take pleasure hereafter in learning all I can, of their strength and position, and the bearer may call again.

Very respectfully, X.X.X.X.

The note was wrapped in the foil and given to the messenger, who called for it in the afternoon and who rode swiftly to Mill Wood, where he was met by a scout who traversed the many miles that lay between the meeting place and General Sheridan's headquarters, and on the next morning delivered the little ball of tin-foil into the hands of the General.

The order was given to march and on the second morning thereof, the nineteenth, the two armies met in battle, so disastrous that over four thousand lives were lost.

The roar of the battle on the outskirts of her little City aroused Miss Wright, as it did all the inhabitants of Winchester, and filled her with dismay and fear. The shells fell so near the little Quaker dwelling that its inmates were compelled to seek shelter in the cellar. As the day grew older, the rumblings grew fainter and at last unable to bear the confinement and her unhappy thoughts in silence, the school mistress left the cellar and went up into the house. From the first floor nothing was to be seen, from the second floor all looked quiet, but from an attic window she could see in the distance her country's flag waving in the breeze.

One moment spent in thanksgiving that at least the sacrifice, if due to her interference, had not been in vain, and descending from the garret, Miss Wright told the good news to her family.

In the evening Miss Wright hearing the clank of swords against the front steps, opened her door to two Union officers. One of them, announcing himself as General Sheridan, said: "Miss Wright, it was entirely on the information which you sent me that I decided to give battle to General Early." He further asked permission to write his official report of the [battle] in the little school room.

Two years later she received an official letter of thanks and a most beautiful watch and chain from General Sheridan.

Miss Wright was born near Winchester on January 3rd, 1838. Her ancestors were for many generations of the Society of Friends. She received her education in the Winchester public school. Her first engagement as a teacher was at the Friends School at Hopewell Meeting, Virginia.

During General Grant's first term, he appointed Miss Wright to a position in the Treasury Department, which, in spite of her marriage a short time later, she still retains.

A rule of the department being that married women are not eligible to civil service employment, this exception was made at the personal request of General Sheridan.

On May 4, 1871, Miss Wright was married to William Carpenter Bonsal, a Washington Agriculturalist, whom she had met in the Capitol City. She has had one child, a boy, who lived only until six years of age. Mrs. Bonsal has lived ever since her marriage at Mount Pleasant, one of the Suburbs of Washington.

Extracted from The Ladies Home Journal of Dec. 1893, where there is also a likeness of Mrs. Bonsal.

When I read the above in the Journal, I at once thought she must be a relative of mine, as I knew of no Wrights, Quakers, save those of my grand mother's ancestors and descendants of Hatfield two hundred years ago. I wrote to her next day and rec'd. this prompt reply:

3312 Center St.
Mt. Pleasant.

Dr. Corson

Thy letter of 12. 6 received this A.M. My grandmother was Hannah Wright, born Rigway. My grand father Jonathan Wright came from Pa., was minister, had many brothers and sisters and ten children, but I have no knowledge of his parents; will sent thy letter to one of my cousins, who is collecting all he can of the ancestors, he can inform me how I am related to thee, as he is posted as far back as records go; if we are related, I will write to thee when I hear from him.

Very Respectfully
Rebecca Bonsal.

December 17: Sunday.

I went to Friends Meeting at 10 A.M., having been busy writing and reading until that time. Never have I been there when there was a deeper silence, and oh! how my mind ran back on the incidents and scenes of seventy years ago when all the benches were filled and I knew every man & boy, all the women & girls that occupied them then. Not one of them present today, except Joel Lare [Lair], and even he was not at that time accustomed to come there. Now the benches almost empty and the audience a poor looking one.

After dinner at one o'clock, I drove to Jawood Lukens' at Conshohocken and took him along over Schuylkill to Samuel Tyson's to see him & Mrs. Tyson. The latter was a daughter of Senator Jonathan Roberts, an old friend of mine. Samuel has been sick. He is much better and they were pleased to see us. Spent 40 minutes there, then went to see Dr. J. K. Reed at King of Prussia. He, too, is poorly and seventy years old. His health is irremediably broken. Reached home after this ride of 14 miles at 5:20 P.M.

December 18: Monday.

Did not sleep a wink last night till 4 o'clock, just wakeful. This now is two nights of very little sleep. This morning rec'd. a great many letters and papers from Buffalo, Rochester, &c., also a box of minerals from Mr. Theo. D. Rand of Radnor.

Very kind it was in him, with a letter requesting me to give him more information about the sink holes in our valley. I will try to work on till after dinner, the old-fashioned noon-day dinner, after which I will go to bed and try to sleep.

December 19: Tuesday.

Slept well last night. Feel pretty strong & well this morning. Read till 9 ½, then went to P.O. and to Geo. Corson's & spent an hour talking with his wife Lizzie & examining the Wright genealogy made out in a printed form by Thos. Adamson. Home just before eleven. Went to the Comfort place to see a man, Sam Freas, who owes me \$88 for attending of his family for a number of years. I have been much out of patience with him for several years, never has paid me one cent and now it is "outlawed" but he does not know that probably. It came to my mind just before I reached there, that I would say to him, kindly, I have come to see you, now that you are doing well, & profitably, that you will perhaps like to pay me some of the bill, so long ago earned by me when you really were not in a business which made it easy to pay me. "Now, if you will pay me \$5 on or about New Year's day and five every 3 months for the coming year, I will make an abatement of at least half of your bill." He said he thought he would do something for me. I had been in the house before I saw him and his wife told me how poorly she had been, since I used to attend her. While talking to her I was struck with palp., so I left & found him at the barn. After my talk with him, came home with it on me, walked from the barn to the dining-room door, and just as I opened it, the palp. stopped. I feel very glad that I suggested that plan for him to pay me. He felt, I think, that it was kind & generous in me.

Afternoon. Occupied in reading & writing and occasionally walking out to see the man at work & looking in on the horses & other creatures and the one hundred beautiful fowls. At 2 P.M. Matt Lewis, formerly my hired man, came to beg a dollar to get ¼ ton pea coal. A few days ago he came for money to get bread. Gave him then what change I had, 80 cents. Peter Smith, too, was here yesterday wanting what I could give, but I was not at home. Times are hard on the poor.

December 20: Wednesday.

Beautiful morning. Therm. 25°, clear & cool. Brought Frannie Day from Sp. Mill at 10:42 A.M. Found my "Hydrophobia" pamphlet and the notes taken from 18 columns of an "Atlas" of more than 100 years ago and from 82 pages of "Zéemssens Encyclopedia of Medicine" and 102 pages of the "Journal of the Am. Med. Association," and from "Wood's Practice of Medicine," which I hunted for in vain for more than a week, [and which] I had thus far prepared for writing my "paper" on Hydrophobia, and then not be able to find it was a provoking thing. But as I have now found it, all is well.

Afternoon. Took Frannie to the cars at 4:20, on her way home. Had a pleasant day with her.

December 21: Thursday.

Slept pretty well. Feel strong & well. After breakfast read & wrote till 10, then after reading my letters went to Norristown and did a good many things. Took Tacie two Chicks, gave two to Frannie yesterday, for Christmas. Will give Bertha three on Saturday & Susan two on the same day.

Called to see Lawyer Charles Hunsicker today in Norristown to interest him in aiding me to have a law passed which will empower Judges to send young criminals and vicious girls to a Reformatory instead of a Jail. He sees difficulties. I see none that could not be readily overcome.

December 24: Sunday.

Warm like spring. Therm. 40 at sunrise, 56 at noon. Oh! it seems like the most beautiful spring morning. Jay and Susan came at 10, just as I brot Tacie from Spring Mill to spend the day. J. & S. did not stay to dinner. Yesterday I gave Tacie, Susan, and Frannie each two fat fowls, and to Bertha three as her family is larger. I was pretty well. Palp. only once.

December 25; Monday.

Christmas-day. It is now eight o'clock. The sky without a cloud, the sun in all its splendor, as on the most beautiful morning of spring. How the rich and the merely "well off" will enjoy themselves today! How the great stores in Phila. will be crowded with buyers and "lookers-on!" How cheery will be the greetings and congratulations of friends as they meet on the streets or in the great bazars [sic]! But there is another view [which] presents itself to my mind. I see the tens of thousands of idle workmen without bread for their families, owing to the shameless policy of the administration headed by Grover Cleveland, an administration which seems to have but a single object, viz., to discredit the previous administration under Benjamin Harrison, the Ex-President, regardless of the suffering of the tens of thousands of starving unemployed workmen anxious to work and yet can find none.

The presents are all distributed to Jim & Jimmy, to Mary and Mamy, to Tildy.

Eleven o'clock. I have been so busy reading the morning news, reading some of the Phila. Ministers Sermons, only two of them though, Rev'd. Krauskoff, the Jew and one other. Had, too, a visitor, Mrs. Catharine Corson, the artist & wife of Walter H. Corson my gd. nephew, with a present for Mary. Also a Christmas present from Miss Catharine Forwood of Darlington, Md., a small box, inside fringed with white lace and containing a bunch of violets & her card, her name on one side and "with much affection" on the other. Those matters so occupied me that just now when I looked at the clock and saw it just ready to strike eleven, I was amazed at the flight of the hours.

Two days ago I sent her five dollars. I know how poor she and her sister are, and I wished them to have something to enable them to get Christmas things. I could not send a turkey, or, as I sent to the girls, chickens, but knew that money would bring one or both. She had not gotten it when she mailed her box.

Four P.M. Mary & self just home from Jaywood Lukens & wife's Christmas dinner to Mr. Lewis Lukens & myself, Charles Clark and his wife and sons & daughters, all but one now in the teen, our Mary, Mrs. Smedly, Mr. Lukens' niece & her son, a young man. A very nice gathering it was of their relatives. We had an excellent dinner and all got away before 3 ½, or about that time. Charles Lukens' & family were not there, because he was sick.

It is the first time Mary has been out to take a ride since her heels were operated on. So she enjoyed even the ride very much.

December 29: Friday.

9 P.M. I have but little to record since last writing save that "Aunt Harriet Foulke" came on Tuesday. I met her at Spring Mill. That day was quite cool and the ground frozen. Since then getting warmer and warmer Wednesday, Thursday & today being like the finest spring days. The Thermometer being 54 to 56 all the afternoon.

At one P.M. taking Jimmy with me to care for the horse, I went to the Court House in Norristown to the meeting of the Historical Society. There were about 50 persons there, the very *crème de la crème* of the County. Judge Swartz presided.

General W. W. H. Davis made a most interesting address and Dr. Egle of Harrisburgh followed in another equally interesting. I thought after the latter closed that I had never heard two speeches more appropriate and interesting on any occasion. An interchange of cordial greetings followed the adjournment. Many came to me and were very cordial, some of whom I can't name now though their faces seemed so familiar to me. Reached home before 5 P.M. The Society will receive an accession to its numbers by this meeting and stimulated to its support by the addresses.

December 30: Saturday.

Rec'd. Gen'l. Davis' address, sent by himself, this noon. A dull, snowy day. Busy with various things.

December 31: Sunday.

At 10:20 A.M. Jay & Susan came, the former was disposed to go to the meeting and wished me to go with him. I went, though I am, when I go alone, there among the earliest. The snow on the ground, the bad slushy roads we thought would deter many members, but we found quite as many present as is usual.

After dinner I, taking Jimmy to drive for me, went to Roxborough to see whether I could not bring the members of Josiah Bickings' family cease a controversy and settle their dispute about [the] amount Ann Bickings small inheritance. Ann was a sister to Josiah Bickings, and her sister Angelina & herself lived together many years ago, and as they were each worth about \$1500, and Ann an invalid, the other Angelina a rheumatic, I advised them each to make a will desiring to the other her estate, provided she died first.

They did so. Angelina died. After a few years more, Josiah their brother died. One of his married daughters had been keeping Aunt Ann for \$3.50 per week before Josiah's death and by his wish.

After his death, some others of the family wished to take Ann from their sister and not being able to get her peacefully, attempted to abduct her and nearly all got before the Court in suits & counter suits. A few days ago two of them came to me for testimony in relation to Ann's sanity and wished me to see their lawyer & give an affidavit. That I would not do. So I concluded to go down & see if I could heal the bitter quarrel. I stopped with Dr. Peltz who is now physician of all of them. Had his concurrence in my views. Then saw the other parties (separately). I got the consent of the party who have Ann in possession, to be willing to let a few good business men hear the case from both sides and say what is right. The other party will, I hope agree to that. A few days more will tell how they feel.

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January 2: Tuesday.

7 P.M. Yesterday was not well and had palp. 4 times in the night. Twice took heavy draughts of ice water which did [stop] the palp quickly. The others went off after a little waiting. Had taken no med. for two days. Now I will take hereafter 1/16 of a gr. sulph. morph. in the morning and again in the evening, as I have done today. Have just taken the evening dose, so am feeling pretty well, but will not likely get asleep until one o'clock tonight, though I go to bed at 9 this evening.

January 3: Wednesday.

Therm. 26° F. at sunrise. Slept pretty well last night, palp. only once, & after waiting a few minutes it left me. [Palp.] twice in the afternoon. Very hoarse all the afternoon.

January 4: Thursday.

Very hoarse all night. Thought of not getting up to breakfast, but did and have been up all day, except a little time on the lounge. Had two palps. this afternoon, which were quite strong one[s] and required the ice-water, and two others which went off after a few minutes without the water. Took Seidlitz with excellent effect.

Sent for Ellwood to come & prescribe for me, but at the same time began to take Seidlitz powders. He came at 4 P.M. At 6 P.M. the Seidlitz began to operate and gave me some relief. But am so hoarse I can hardly talk at all. I dread the long and to me lonely night. Deposited \$26.60 in Bank, by James.

This is a meager account of a day of discomfort.

January 5: Friday.

Frannie Day came at 11 A.M. and brot. her little son Richard about 3 years old. A cute interesting little boy. I was very poorly all night. Palp. twice. I took Seidlitz powder again today; purged me well, thin watery stools. When I get a real bad cold, so hoarse that I can scarcely talk "above my breath," I get great relief from purging by Seidlitz powder. I am almost well this evening, 8 P.M.

The distress among the families of discharged workmen, discharged because of the sad, erring policy of the democratic party, is dreadful to contemplate. Thousands, tens of thousands with no work. Two here today. One to get help, the other to get recommendation from me to get a place in the great Norristown hospital for insane.

January 10: Wednesday.

Much has happened since I wrote the above. I was sick for several days. We may call it Grip I suppose. As I am better now it is useless to go into an account of it. Aunt Harriet is still here, and on Sunday, my bother-in-law Frank Bacon and his wife took dinner with us.

I rec'd. an invitation to the funeral of Cousin Ann Ellis, daughter of Uncle Joshua Corson. Funeral [was] last Monday. My invitation came to me the same day and as it took place at Forrestville, Bucks Co., I of course could not go. Yesterday & today I have been out, to Norristown and to Conshohocken.

Have had a great many letters from friends, very pleasant ones too. Daughter Bertha Yocom is here for the night. My Sister Sarah's gt. gd. son Percy Wood Jones' wedding comes off in Phila. at 6:30 P.M. at 1535 Walnut St., to Miss Marie Helen Stanton. I sent "Letter of Congratulation."

January 11: Thursday.

The wedding is over, a great display, &c., &c. More than 600 invitations, more than 500 friends, &c., &c. I took Bertha to Spring Mill on her way home this P.M. A great robbery of the "Consolidated Bank of Phila. by one of the officers, not the cashier, but a clerk.

How strange it is that a good, orderly married man with a nice family and a good salary, 1,800 dollars per year, would run such risks!

January 12: Friday.

Letters from Judge Yerkes of Doylestown and from Judge D. Newlin Fell of the Supreme Court and Dr. Mattison, proprietor of the great chemical works at Ambler, very pleasant letters.

I am battling with the infirmities of age as well as I can, not complaining though of my fate. It would be a weakness and a shame to do so, for my health is pretty good, barring only the cold which, as an Irishman would say, "has been at me" these two weeks past.

It is cold and windy today and so changed from the warm, murky weather of the past two weeks, that I think it would be unsafe for me to brave the wind & cold by riding out.

I am engaged in looking over papers sent to me by Dr. Charles H. Thomas from which to glean a few additional items for my publication now in the hands of the printer to be put in pamphlet form. I took many notes yesterday & last evening.

Death of Mr. Henry Freedley, Attorney at Law. It is now just about 60 years since I was asked by my brother Wm. Corson to see Mr. Freedley with him. Wm. had then been in "practice" only about two years. Mr. F. then boarded in the same house in Norristown with brother Wm. Mr. Freedley was dangerously ill with acute Bronchitis; was as sick as any patient I had then seen, and most faithfully we attended him. I going to Norristown every day & on some days twice to see him. He finally got well. We have been good friends ever since. He was about 20 years of age then and I was 31. I have met him often during the past few years. He was father-in-law to John J. Corson. Only about two weeks ago I had a pleasant talk with him and he seemed in fine health and spirits. He was ill but about 10 days with "Gripp." My nephew Dr. Lewis W. Read attended him as physician.

January 14: Sunday.

Almost a Spring-day. I would have gone to Friends Meeting today, but was so desirous to have the horses, "the good faithful Kentucky Sorrel" of Race-Horse breed, and "Bessie," the fine grey messenger mare, to be loose in the lawn around the house, about 3 acres, and in the five acre lot back of the barn, that I preferred to stay at home. I had them turned out. And so delighted they were that round and round the house they

went as if for a Wager, then stop, snort, rear up, then kick up, and with a whirl and heads & tails up away they go again.

I have been pondering this subject, the proper treatment of horses, and also cows and other domestic animals, for a long time and recently have concluded that what we have considered our kind treatment of them has connected with it some conditions specially hard for the animals to bear, and yet, it goes on from year to year under the name of kindness.

The criminals in our Eastern Penitentiary have small rooms in which besides a cot, there is space enough for them to lie on the floor, or bed, in whatever position they may choose, or walk about, or even dance should they wish to exercise. Some, too, have even an outer room, a little yard outside, in which to walk. But how are our horses fixed in the stables of the rich, who have their groomers to attend to them? They are put into a narrow stable, wide enough to allow the animal to lie down on a bed of straw, or rather a little straw, on a board or plank floor, but tied to the trough so that they can't move from the place. In the day-time, some shorten the strap so that he can't lie down at all, and at night it is barely long enough to let his body down but too short to allow of his laying his head sidewise on the floor or bed. And so it goes on, day after day, tied up to the trough unable however much he may feel the need of it, to stretch himself on the floor as he may choose. Were we to treat the prisoners so, it would be considered brutal in the extreme. Every horse should have a stable large enough to turn around in and walk about, if it be only a few feet in each direction, and to lie down in any posture he may desire. But you say, "he gets plenty of exercise in the day-time at his work on the road." Yes, oft-times so much as to weary him greatly and to need rest in lying down, which is forbidden him. But even when on the road he is tortured by ignorant, cruel people who use the Kimball rein. His head & neck are jerked back and kept in that painful position for hours while he is whipped up to a fast gait for miles; then stopped and compelled to await the time to move again without the rein being loosed so that his neck may be rested. To discover what pain is thus inflicted on him, let any one throw his head backward a little beyond the exactly perpendicular position and hold it there but for only 10 minutes. The aching will convince him that the restlessness of the horse when tied to a post, his turning his face, first to one side and then to the other, are efforts to get relief from his sufferings, the sufferings in the back of the neck.

18th. I left this space so as to make other remarks. Today I saw a man at the store whose suffering horse [was] tied there a week ago, and which led me to write the above, who said to me, doctor you see I have followed your advice, have loosened the rein when I stopped the horse. The horse was standing quietly & comfortably. I had a week before pleaded with the man to relieve the horse who was reined to the utmost degree with the Kimball rein. I showed him then its cruelty. Today he is proud of his doing without it.

The horses being provided for, I began to arrange books, pamphlets, &c., in other words to "tidy up" my desk and table, and read & wrote.

Jay & Susan and gd. daughter "Carrie" C. Cresson came at 10:30 A.M., left at noon. After dinner, Aunt H. and Mary went to bed. I went to the school-house to look at my minerals. At 3 P.M., while I was at the desk trying to name some, [the] ones of which I feared the name was not correct, Dr. E. M. C., my nephew and his wife came in on me.

We left the women to themselves and we went into another room. He had come to get my aid in relation to keeping Dr. Alice Bennett from complying with Governor Pattison's wish to have her to be one of the Trustees of the "Hospital for the Chronic Insane" at Wernersville. The great objection to her being a Trustee there is that there is to be a Superintendent there, instead of physicians appointed by the Trustees as in the Norristown Hospital, which has been so grandly conducted by Trustees. She has great influence with the Governor and now, if she will do right, I will be greatly aided by her taking the proper stand in this matter. She should say to the Governor, "I cannot be a Trustee there if there is to be a Superintendent. I think every hospital in the State should be under the entire control of the Trustees, and a male physician for the males & a female physician for the females, but no medical Superintendent. Should I become a Trustee, I will be regarded as being favorable to such an organization, which I am not. I know how apposed they are to female physicians and how they embarrass them in their work." But the Governor may say, "the Trustees can do without a Supt. if they choose." "No they can't, it is in their law and will be exercised."

Should she thus refuse, on this account it will make my work of getting the laws changed so as to have no Supt. in any hospital easy.. Should she go on as a Trustee as at present organized, she will lose her place at Norristown, and deservedly too.

Judge Stinson and Ellwood have had consultations on the subject, and as the Judge thinks Dr. Hiram Corson is the only person who can influence her against accepting under the Governor, they wish me to see her on Tuesday, as she is to meet the Governor at Harrisburgh or at Wernersville on Wednesday. If I shall be alive & well enough to go to the Hospital on Tuesday, I will try to be there, and if she refuses to do as we wish her to do, she will be asked to resign from her present place. I will be plain with her.

January 17: Wednesday.

Since Sunday I have been quite busy. On Monday I went to the funeral of my long-time friend Henry Freedley, Esq., attorney at Law, Norristown, and did some things in Norristown. Went to Tacie, &c. Tuesday went to Norristown, expecting to go to the Hospital for the Insane to see Dr. Bennett, but as I found when reaching Norristown that she was not at home, went no further. Today, was at Norristown before 9 A.M. on my way to the Hospital to see Dr. Bennett before she will leave home today for Harrisburgh. Saw my nephew, Dr. E. M. Corson, who is anxious that she shall tell Governor Pattison who wishes to appoint her one of the Trustees of the Wernersville Hospital that she cannot serve.

I am sorry to say that from her talk today, she is not loyal to the Trustees. She said, she did not know that she could continue there if there were not a change. She is evidently pretty well spoiled. I predict that if she should allow herself to be appointed a Trustee, she will lose her place at Norristown, and she should lose it.

I got home at one o'clock, took dinner immediately and without having the mare unhitched, went to Consho. to see the men putting a wire-fence round my 5th Avenue lots, 9 lots. Went to see Susan, then to Dr. Highley's, then to Dr. McKinsey's & to Esq. Smith's. Home at dusk. Had palp. about 15 minutes while at McKinsey's.

Went to bed very tired at 8:30. Did not sleep a wink until after 2 A.M. today. This was caused by taking 1/12 of a grain of sulph. morph. and a teaspoonful of a tonic

composed of quinine 2 grs., Iron 2 grs., strychnia 1/60 of a grain, just before going to bed. This stimulated me & kept me awake. Should have taken it about 4 o'clock instead of bed time. After 2 A.M. slept pretty well until 6 ½ A.M. when I awoke with palp. Waited 15 minutes & it went off.

At 10 A.M. brought Franny C. Day from Sp. Mill. Have felt weak and dull today, possibly because of the loss of sleep.

January 18: Thursday.

Very weak, but rode out a good deal by myself.

January 19: Friday.

Was at Norristown on business, money matters. John J. C. wants me to loan a man on whose property I hold a mortgage to loan him still more. Another man wishes to pay off a mortgage which I hold against him. In the forenoon I was at Conshohocken directing the men how to put up a wire fence round my 9 lots on 5th Av. So I was busy all day, and very weak so that I was very impatient to reach home, indeed felt as though I could hardly do it.

Palpitations about twice every day and twice every night. Some, if I wait a while, will go off without my taking ice-water.

[January 21]: Sunday.

Afternoon, 4 o'clock. Yesterday it was needful that I go to Norristown to receive the amount of a mortgage and enter satisfaction in the office. So was up there at 10 A.M. and at the appointed place at eleven. Waited an hour for the parties to be ready, and by this time felt so weak that it seemed to be necessary to take something to strengthen me. Went to an oyster shop & had "half a dozen stewed." This revived me somewhat, and as they still were not ready, the business was postponed till Monday, and I left for home. Before I had gotten half way, I felt so weak and so nauseated that I hurried "Bessie" along and was glad that I succeeded in reaching home.

Then I took some dinner, but was oppressed by it, that is, I felt as though my stomach was too full, though I had eaten but little. Then I lay on the lounge a couple of hours, but afterward got up and got Jimmy to take me to George Corson's to enquire how his son Percy was getting along with the Diphtheria, from there to Friend Robert Hatton's to ask how he was, having heard that he was not well. Did not leave the carriage at either place.

Took no supper but at 10 P.M. had a small bowl of hot milk and a little toast, also 3 oysters. I was up five times in the night, but slept some between times.

This morning came down early, 7 A.M. At 8 took a little oat-meal & milk, then went to bed and staid till 10 ½ when Jay & Susan came. I talked with Jay a good deal, but did not get up. At 3 P.M. was weak & nauseated, so took my favorite remedy for nausea, vinegar & water sweetened, also took 3 oysters with vinegar & pepper. Since then I have been in bed and feel better. I rose to write a letter to Joseph, but as this book caught my eye, I concluded to write some here.

January 27: Saturday.

Since last writing, now almost a week ago, I have been without palp., indeed since

last Friday night a week ago. It seems very strange, as I have scarcely missed a day for weeks without two or three, often 4 or 5 in 24 hours. Beside that change, I have had another. I have slept pretty well. I might say very well. For instead of having to rise every hour, or hour and a half to urinate, I only waken about [at] one & four and at daylight, sleeping well in the intervals. I attribute the change, though perhaps erroneously, to taking about four teaspoonsful of the weak, morphine solution = to 1/6 gr. sulph. morph. in two doses through the whole day, and avoiding the use of the Quinine, Iron & Strychnia Elixir. Still, though I have thus slept so much better, I have cont'd. to feel the great weakness and for the last three or four days, have kept myself at home and in the house. Since yesterday morning I have felt a little better, have been able to take a little more food.

There does not seem to me to be a particle of disease in my whole body. What then ails me? The infirmities of old age, the wear and tear of nearly ninety years of life. But, "no", says some one. "It is Grippe." Well, "have it so."

January 28: Sunday.

9 P.M. The ground has a mantle of snow aboard this morning. Until day before yesterday, the winter has seemed like late spring. I slept pretty well last night, was enabled to eat tolerably well last evening, but I am feeling weak, though I think, a little improved. Last Friday I got through with my "paper" on the Hydrophobia, but did not read it before the Society as I felt too weak. I also finished my change, omissions and additions, to my second edition of the "Recognition of Women Physicians" and felt greatly relieved that this work was done. But now I am asked by Hon. Kainor [Koiner] of the House of Deputies of Virginia, to aid him in carrying his "Bill" through the House. His "Bill" is really a copy nearly of mine, which has twice passed our Senate. I am also engaged in securing the appointment of two good women on the "Board of Trustees of the Wernersville (new) hospital for the Chronic Insane in this State. I have secured names and hope to be able to write to the Governor tomorrow.

January 30: Tuesday.

Rec'd. from Mrs. Sarah Cresson Fraley Johnson, dau[ghter] of Frederick Fraley, two letters containing names of women highly recommended by her and proper ones to be Trustees. Her last letter rec'd. last evening and was a strong one in favor of a Mrs. Hall, a woman of great efficiency. I enclosed entire to the Gov. I feel now that he has enough to choose from.

Yesterday and today I am much better. For several days before I felt to be near my end of life. I was fearfully weak. Susan has been daily on visits to me, bringing me what she thought would be pleasant food and yet nourishing. Dr. Ellwood has been twice to see me. I have taken only a little morph. (1/6 of a grain in 24 hours) and six Quinine pills 1 gr. each daily. I am really much better and strange to say, I feel well at night and same in the day. I used to lie awake till one or two in the morning.

Have wrote much today & yesterday to clean up neglected correspondence. Have written twice to the Governor & once to Hon. Kainor [Koiner], House of Deputies of Richmond, Va. and many others.

8 P.M. Joseph writes sorrowfully that he cannot come, his son is so sick with mumps.

February 1: Thursday.

Yesterday was very stormy and I kept close [to] home. Slept pretty well last night, but am still weak and disposed to lie on the bed or lounge a great deal.

This morning about 9 o'clock, Susan came in followed by Joseph and found me on the lounge. I have felt about as usual today. Have talked a good deal with Joseph and took a short ride with him to Geo. Corson's and somewhat beyond.

It is now 8 P.M. and I have been up & talking a good deal with Joseph and am pretty tired.

Grandson Edward F. Corson's letter to his father rec'd. this morning:

"This Edward bumped his little head,
And got the mumps, the Doctor said.
They made a very great to do,
And gave him bitter Meddy too.
They put the Thermometer under his arm
And looked at each other in great alarm.
For lo! It was one hundred and four,
And then got up and went to the door."

"Your little son was very sick,
But now is dressed up very slick;
He's walking up and down the floor,
And feels much better than before."

"My dear old father only think
His hands are black as is dried ink."

Dedicated to Father from his son Edward F. Corson.

Letters just now from Frannie Day who expects to come here tomorrow at 10:42 at Sp. Mill, and Sarah Dolley, M.D. at 3 P.M. at Conshohocken. Also a Bill for work at Tacie's and an invitation to the funeral of Cousin Joshua Blaker, at Newtown, Bucks Co. Sat. next at 11 A.M.

February 2: Friday.

I feel much improved in strength. Had two palpitations yesterday; one of them nearly an hour, as I concluded to let it run a while. That great weakness which I had so badly for two or more weeks, and to less degree for the past few days, seems absent this morning to quite a great degree.

Now that Joshua Blaker is gone, the old stock of my grandfather's family, the 2nd. generation below him & his wife Sarah (Dungan) Corson are gone from Bucks county, and I am the only one of the generation left in Montgomery Co.

8 P.M. Frannie was taken by Joseph to Conshohocken on her road home at 3 P.M., and Sarah Dolley, M.D. came back with him at 4 P.M. She is about 65 years old, looks all that, is grey and worn.

I am unable to sit up and keep up a conversation for long at a time, but as Joseph comes in as a substitute, I retire as I have just done to rest and wrote.

February 3: Saturday.

We had a pleasant evening with Joseph and Sarah Dolley. We were all up at 6 A.M. in order to have breakfast in time for Sarah to go in the 8 A.M. train from Conshohocken. Joseph was taken [taking] her down.

My weakness has almost disappeared.

February 4: Sunday.

If my weakness had almost disappeared yesterday, it has come back in full force today. I do feel very weak just now. Bertha Yocom has been here, came with Jay and Susan at 10 A.M. and has just gone to the cars for home. She has had a good talk with Joseph, and he has taken her to the cars. I tried to "keep up" as well as I could and show no signs of weakness, while she was here, but it was with great effort that I did it.

Almost as soon as she had gone, I took 1/12th gr. of sulph. morph. and 4 grains sulph. Quinine and in half an hour or more, I felt like a new man. The weakness all gone, and now at 9 P.M. feel fresh and well.

February 5: Monday.

Slept pretty well; no appetite, but can eat pretty well at every meal. Take 2 grs. Quinine after every meal, with 1/24th gr. morph. added for two of the times and 1/12 the last time, about 6 P.M. Thus I am enabled to sleep well & have no palp.

Death of Mary Read Roberts, my sister Sarah's daughter. She died "Sunday Feb. 4." Is to be buried Wednesday 7th at 2 P.M.

February 7: Wednesday.

Frannie Yocom came here yesterday and at eleven A.M. today, daughter Frannie Day came. After dinner, James, our man, took us up to Norristown to the funeral. Being rather early, I paid some bills and drew \$40 from the Bank for my use. Then we went to Mary's home. She looke[d] calm, peaceful and even beautiful as she lay there in her plain neat dress and in a coffin plain as herself.

Oh! what a ridiculous thing is a gaudy coffin!

We were taken upstairs to the rooms in which the relatives were gathered and as the house is warmer from a "heater" in the cellar, and a luxurious arm-chair was given to me, I felt very comfortable during the hour spent there, though I was feeling very weak. There were many of the relatives there. But oh! how pronounced and deep was the silence up-stairs and down. After a short time, Mary Thomas preached a short sermon, then followed an unutterable silence of twenty minutes, when a movement was made to close the coffin and the audience quietly left the house. A carriage was there to take me to the grave, but I felt weak and had a desire to get home as soon as possible. So took our own carriage and before 4 P.M. was at home and on the lounge heavily covered.

At 5 P.M. took 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. and that dispersed the pains through my muscles of the chest, and by its effects on the nervous system I am now, after supper, feeling pretty comfortable. Frannie Day will stay all night with us.

February 8: Thursday.

Took Frannie Day to the train at Spring Mill at 8:30 A.M. Then went by Conshohocken to Susan's. Home by eleven. Wrote a letter to Judge Weand, one to son

Joseph. Helen Hovenden came to Mary Roberts' funeral yesterday, staid at Ellwood's last night and dined with us today.

Mrs. Blankenburgh and Mrs. Hattie Hollowell, woman suffragists, want me to join them in a circular to all the ministers of the County to preach one Sermon on the subject of suffrage for women. I went to see Mrs. Hollowell about it this P.M.

Have written five letters today, to each of the following persons: One to Joseph, Judge Weand, Mr. Devine, Fred. Fraley's daughter Mrs. Sarah Hollowell, & Dr. Samuel Wolfe.

February 9: Friday.

Staid in the house until noon. After dinner, though it was very damp and drizzly, I had James to take me in the large carriage to Conshohocken Bank that I might consult my friend Isaac Roberts, the cashier, in relation to the business proposed by Mrs. Hollowell. We concluded that instead of the circular being signed by Mrs. Hollowell & myself, it should have several names of women who are in favor of suffrage. We selected a few, Mrs. Hollowell, Mrs. Sarah Tyson, Mrs. Mary B. Livezey, Mrs. Dr. Beaver, Mrs. Conroy and Mrs. Landis. Isaac wanted to add the name of my daughter Mrs. Tacie C. Cresson, but she has not been but a short time a member and never an active one. Home after a call on daughter Susan Lukens, at 4 P.M.

February 10: Saturday.

Slept but poorly last night because I cont'd. looking over my manuscripts, written by myself and my gd. children two or more years ago, in the hope that I might wish to publish them some time. I got my mind so full of measles, Scarlet Fever & Diphtheria. This P.M. took them to Norristown to see what the cost will be for putting them in book form. Left them with the publisher. Paid the Druggist, got crutches for Mary from the man who mended them, Saw Dr. Ellwood and John J. Corson, and poor old "Matt." Home by 4 P.M. Saw daughter Tacie too, on her way to the woman's Suffrage meeting. I did not go as I can't hear the talk.

Have felt slight nausea all the afternoon, but as I have eaten a big supper of stewed oysters, must not complain.

February 11: Sunday.

8 A.M. Slept a good deal, for though awake & up often, the night was 10 hours from my bed-time at 9 P.M. until 7 ½ this morning.

I feel rather better too this morning, not much of the nausea of yesterday. Will eat sparingly and see how that will result. The clock strikes! It has just struck 8 times, and I had just finished two letters: One to Dr. Clara Marshall in relation to having a woman surgeon and Physician to manage "Prestin Retreat." It has always had [a] man at the head of it, because the donor speaking of the Principal, said he must be a skillful physician, &c. The Supreme Court Has decided several times that the he must be construed as a person. So has our Judge recently. Hereafter I want that we have a woman elected. The second letter was a very long one to Joseph.

Twice today I had attacks of palp. but both went off directly without ice-water.

9 ½ P.M. Have read for nearly an hour in the "Annals of Hygiene," a very interesting monthly. This morning before 10 A.M. read every article in the last

“Intelligencer,” my habit always on First-day morning.

February 12: [Monday].

When I rose this morning I could not feel certain whether it was second-day or third-day, but inquired and found it was the former. But now after breakfast when I began to write I wrote Tuesday. Slept pretty well last night; had no cough, and when awake felt very comfortable.

How much I am occupied in myself and my doings. Looking at this diary it seems so. But really all day I am busily engaged in work concerning others as well as myself. Mary and myself are alone, and it is pleasant to be so, if only as a change, for we have had Harriet and others for two months, and all this time under light restraint, which is now removed.

February 15: Thursday.

Yesterday I had an attack of palp. which needed the water to take it off, the first time in nearly four weeks, not once since Jan. 20th till now, Feb. 14th. How strange that while I was weak and poorly from the Gripp, the palp. did not trouble me much. During the last few days, when the peculiar weakness of the Gripp had left me and I was nearly up to the former standard, it began to return, but without water every time disappeared in a few minutes!!!

This morning before rising I had it, and had to get up and take the ice-water; had it again and it went off in a short time. I seem to be about as well now as before I got the Gripp and the great weakness. So I suppose the palpitations will come as before.

I have been wonderfully busy the past few days, reading, writing letters, &c. It is amazing how many letters I have rec'd. and answered, from Joseph, Ella Roberts, Dr. Styer, Dr. Wolfe, Dr. Charles H. Thomas, Dr. A. D. Markley, Lawyer Forman, Howard Comfort, Norma Corson, University President, Harriet Foulke, Helen Hovenden, Dr. Marshall, &c., &c., all this week, [and from] Thos. Adamson and Mrs. Gov. Hartranft.

How little note I can take of the much that goes on in the world every day, and comes to us in the morning and evening papers!! Some months ago Thomas Hovenden told me that he wanted to paint my portrait, and I told him that I was anxious to have it done. He took it. I wanted to pay him for it. He would not fix a price, so I brought it home, and it has been here since. The other night when in bed, it flashed upon my mind that he wanted it for himself to exhibit, perhaps, as an evidence of his skill. It worried me greatly and I have written to Helen that they must have it. That I will have it framed for them.

February 16: Friday.

9 P.M. Cold. Therm. 20° at sunrise, again at sunset. Hope we can take ice tomorrow. Pretty good sleighing today.

Austin L. Taggart, known all over the State as “Farmer Taggart,” has, during some years, been active as a politician, and though holding a high place as a Legislator, has been pleasantly, jocularly [jocularly] criticized, and several times has failed to reach the offices to which he aspired, died suddenly yesterday, when apparently doing well, as recovering from the Gripp. He was a patient of Dr. Ellwood and talked pleasantly with him but a few hours before his death. Worry, worry did this work for him.

Susan was here most of the day. I wrote five letters today. Am pretty well. Rode a few miles.

Death of Elwin Moore, son-in-law of Joseph Foulke, an eminent preacher among Friends, and my teacher when a boy, died yesterday.

February 17: Saturday.

Therm. 9° F. Men cutting Ice. Fine, bright morning. Dreamed last night that I was a prisoner. Where the place was I did not seem to know. There were a great many men all around where I was, but I did not know any of them. I was quiet, did not say a word, did not know why I was arrested. Kept me for many hours. All looked at me as if I were a great criminal.

William was with me a little while, but said very little. I was greatly humiliated to be in that position, but saw it was by a crowd of such characters as frequent city saloons. It was a comfort to awaken.

Bertha, Susan & Jaywood came this A.M. Bertha staid till 4 P.M., the other two left as is their custom before dinner at 12:30. Bertha is wonderfully vigorous and every way a good woman. Susan too is greatly interested in the affairs of the times and most enthusiastic in tracing back our ancestry of all lines, as far as possible. She is skillful at it now, too. Knows where to look for data. Has recently run back the Dungan line four generations further than we had it, and as in other lines back to a Lord, if that is a desirable thing to know. In vol. 6, p. 127 of Pennsylvania Magazine, is the following: Frances Latham, dau. of Thomas Latham, was born 1611, died Sep. 1677, married Lord Weston, then Wm. Dungan; they had two children; he died & she mar. Jeremy Clark & still later Rev'd. Wm. Vaughan. The children of Wm. Dungan, viz. 4 in number were brought by Jeremy Clark and their mother to Rhode Island, where the girls married. Wm. her son also married

The children of Thomas, son of William & Frances, were 9: Wm., Clement, Thomas, Elizabeth, Mary, John, Rebecca, Sarah, Jeremiah.

The Generations of our ancestry:

1. Lewis Latham;
2. Frances Latham, who mar. Wm. Dungan;
3. Rev'd. Thomas Dungan, born in England;
4. Thos. Dungan; }
5. Joseph Dungan; }
6. Sarah Dungan; } Americans
7. Joseph Corson; }
8. Hiram Corson }

February 22: Thursday.

9 P.M. Washington's Birth-day. At home all day. Snowed last night. The County Historical Society of the County was to meet at 2 P.M., but as I am pretty deaf and the walking very bad even on the pavement, concluded to stay home. Have written a great deal, and fairly completed my paper on Hydrophobia.

All day it has seemed to me that it is First-Day. Peter Smith here to beg money of me to get his daughter overshoes, her common shoes being so bad she can't go to school this bad weather. By putting over shoes on them she can go, as they only cost 35

cents, I gave it. Also lent him an axe. The poor are greatly pressed to get the necessities of life.

The offer of my portrait to Thomas Hovenden has been thankfully accepted. He does not wish me to get a frame; has one. Have had many good letters since Sat. 17th and have written many. Who wishes to get many letters will fail in his wish, unless himself writes many. My correspondence is so extensive, so wide-spread over the country that I can scarcely do it well, so as to satisfy all.

Frannie Yocum is with Mary & self and makes time pass pleasantly with us.

February 23: Friday.

Frannie Day and Susan Lukens, two of my daughters, both came at 11 A.M. and staid until 4 P.M. We had a very pleasant day. Susan has become greatly interested in looking up our far back ancestry, and Frannie is as much interested in Benevolent Societies in Phila. I was very tired when they went home. So much talking and listening wearied me greatly. This evening I have read some letters, just come, and wrote a long letter to my friend Dr. Traill Green of Easton, Pa., almost the only survivor of the many friends whom I used to meet in the early years of our State Medical Society.

February 24: Saturday.

Therm. 8° F., coldest morning of the season. Frannie Yocom left at 8 this morning. The palpitation of the heart has fairly resumed its old-time habits. This morning I had a spell in bed, but by getting up & walking around, it went off in a few minutes, but I had it badly again at 10 A.M. and after half an hour's waiting for it to leave, had to take ice-water to arrest its rapid action. At 2 P.M. had it badly for nearly two hours. The water that I took to stop it was not quite cold enough and I did not wish to repeat the dose, so waited in bed till it left of its own accord. I have been so free from it for about 36 days that it seems harder to bear than formerly, before the sickness, I mean. On the 15th of Feb. I wrote that they were returning, an evidence that the Grippe was nearly well, so it seemed, but since then it has nearly every time been light and left of its own accord very soon. Here it is again as I write. I have taken ice-water and have stopped it. 7 P.M.

9 P.M. Five letters this evening, three this morning, and some Journals & pamphlets. An invitation to the funeral of Daniel & Emma Getty's only son; funeral next Tuesday.

February 25: Sunday.

I had finished writing in my diary last evening but a few minutes, when I had an attack of palpitation, and though I drank a tumbler of cold water, not as cold as was needed, it did not go off. So, I went to bed and lay on my left side an hour or so, when it left. Then at 11 ½ P.M. it came again, but fortunately, after thumping away for half hour or so dropped down to the normal speed. Then at 2 A.M. today came again, and as it did not leave after waiting a good while, I took ice-water with immediate relief. Then at 4 A.M. it came again, and again I had to resort to the ice-water.

It would seem to be a logical conclusion, from the fact that I had no spells of it while I was poorly with La Grippe, and have for the last two weeks been getting them

moderately, and now in the old-fashioned way, that I must now be entirely free from La Grippe.

It is now 10 ½ A.M. and before beginning this writing, I had read everything in the Friends Intelligencer and had written a letter commending of his success in improving the Intelligencer and making it one of the most interesting that I read.

The silent resolve, which will I hope prove to be like the Laws of the Medes and Persians that altereth not, made last evening.

Jaywood & Susan here from 10 ½ to 12:30.

February 26: Monday.

Slept well last night, no palp. How strange it seems! Seventh-day night palp. 4 times, beside having it three times the preceding day-time, and since that none all First-day and last night and only once today. It is now nearly five P.M.

It has been snowing fearfully all day, and is still at it. I have rec'd. several letters and sent away four & have two more to send in the evening mail. Therm. 30°.

February 28: Wednesday.

Slept pretty well, no palp. After reading until the mail came at 9 A.M., I found a letter from the Norristown Herald office, asking that I look over a proof sent to me, and to bring also a proof sent to me a few days ago. I was startled not having agreed to have my paper on Scarlet Fever and Measles, though I left the Mss. there for them to look at and tell me the lowest cost for 100 copies. I had not looked over the manuscript to correct it, which I supposed was needed, as it had been copied by my gd. children from the various State Society Transactions. I at once went to Norristown to fix matters. Sure enough they were setting up the matter. There seemed to be no alternative but to go on.

I have concluded to have the paper on Measles to precede what I have written on Scarlet Fever. The whole to cost me \$76, also to have 100 copies of the Measles paper, struck off by itself to cost me \$9.00. I brought the proof sheets of what is already done, home with me and this afternoon corrected them.

March 1: Thursday.

I was greatly worried last night nearly all night, to know that I was "in" for seventy-six dollars and \$9 more, when I had not ordered it done. This morning after 9 o'clock, James took me up again. Then I found out that while they had the measles in type, they had not begun the scarlet fever at all, or if at all, had done very little. So, I brought about 20 sheets of the beginning home with me to correct, and a deal of correcting it needed. When I left it there a few days ago, I told Mr. Wanner that I had not looked over it to correct it, that it had been written by my gd. children & would have to be carefully gone over by me. He says he thought he was to go on and "set it up."

March 2: Friday.

Have been very busy looking over my "Recognition of Women Physicians," with the addition at Mss. which I want added to it. Have just finished it, and will now go up and tell them that I will have a hundred copies of the Measles, and will leave the "Recognition" pamphlet with them for 100 copies. That if I do more with the Scarlet

Fever papers, I will write a preface for them instead of publishing the pamphlet with (and as a preface to) the S. Fever papers.

March 3: Saturday.

Splendid morning. Ground still covered with snow. Slept well last night, but had palp. and had to take ice-water to stop it once.

I went to Norristown yesterday and fixed things in relation to the publishing of my measles pamphlets as I wished, and brot away the Scarlet Fever papers. So by this I have saved quite a good deal of money, \$76.00. I am now only going to have 100 copies of the measles struck off and paper covers put on them.

I also left my "Recognition of Women Physicians," &c. with a preface and an appendix and some changes in the body of it. Of this I want a hundred copies too.

Made a visit to Hannah Schultz, Mrs. Ellen Jones and also went to Elihu Roberts.

I am quite relieved of my worry over the fear that they had gone so far with the Scarlet Fever papers that I would have to let them go on and publish them at so great expense to me. Indeed I feel, now that if they would publish me a hundred copies for nothing I would not care to have them. What would I do with them. The measles I expect to give to Libraries, &c., where the profession can have access to them in years to come, if they wish.

I had one palp. attack while in bed after dinner today. Bore it a few minutes, then went for the ice-water, just as I got to it, the palp. left. No letter now for a few days, a most remarkable thing. O, I am wrong, had a business one from Dr. Sarah Dolley just now, 8 P.M.

March 4: Sunday.

After the world's custom. Lovely morning, 7 ½ o'clock. Slept pretty well, only that I got awake at midnight and was so for two or more hours. Thought of some matters that I would like to do on Monday next, if I should be able, and for fear that I would, or might forget them came down stairs and wrote them down. Then I felt easy and slept well afterwards. Am feeling pretty well now since I have had a thorough washing of my head & neck & face. Twice in the night palp. attacked me, but just as I got to the ice-water and got it poured out, the palp. went off.

After I had finished reading "Friends Intelligencer," Jaywood & Susan came up and staid until dinner was ready and then went home. Wrote letters to Sarah Dolley & Sarah C. F. Hallowell.

After dinner I felt like lying on the lounge, as Mary had gone up stairs, but I concluded to read what Thomas Yocom had put in type, with the writer, for me, so went at it and got it all corrected and then arranged more for him. I say arranged, for I was then merely gathering together a few reported cases of the so-called Hydrophobia, to show how plain it was that every one of them was a case of false Hydrophobia. By 3 ½ P.M. I had it all arranged. Then I went to the school house to select a few of my minerals to bring to the office, where I am getting quite a collection. It is singular what a pleasure it is to me to look over my minerals and become better acquainted with them by reading of them in Dana's Mineralogy.

March 5: Monday.

Went to Conshohocken after 9 on several matters of business. After dinner took Mary with me to Norristown to see John and urge the renting of my offices, but not 25 Alan St., Consho. Also to sell straw. Straw sells at 60 cts. per 100 pounds in Phila. Here a man who wants straw wanted me to take 48. Got my hair and whiskers cut. Gave a beggar, out of work, a man I know, a little money for flour.

March 6: Tuesday.

I went out to the barn soon after getting down stairs and said to the man, "I want a feather, a wing feather." He said he did not know of any. Why, I said, "we kill three or four chickens a week, there must surely be one to be found; where do you put them?" "In the barn yard." I then said, "let us now agree upon how much we will feed the horses," and I told him how much I thought we ought to give them. He made no reply and I came away. After a while, only a few minutes, I went back and he had just come out with the milk bucket. Directly he came out of the stable and said, "Dr. I guess I might as well quit." "Why, what will you quit for." Well, we can't get along together. Well, I said you are a very good man for doing work, and I shall be sorry if you go away, but if you will why that is all there is of it. But I said the only difficulty is that you wont talk to me about our work. I want that we should talk about what we have to do, to see what is the best way. But no, you wont say any thing, give me any satisfaction. I say again I shall be sorry if you go away, but if you wish to do it, there is an end of it, then be started to go away. Why I said are you not going to milk? "No I may as well quit now," and away he went. In a short half hour the other man, Geo. Baker, came and he went at the work.

It is now 5 ½ P.M. and the Thermometer at 64° Farenheit [sic].

March 7: Wednesday.

The wife of my hired man, a girl whom "Mother," Mrs. Dr. Corson "brot up," and her children and the man himself have been much distressed since he left me so foolishly and unceremoniously. I did not look out for another man, and the children and wife came daily to do their accustomed work, the mother acting for her daughter who is now sick. But today I saw Dr. Highley and it occurred to me to ask him if he knew of a farmer I could get. He told me of one who had this morning applied to him to know if he could tell him where he could get a place. He is so desirable a man that I called on him and arranged a bargain with him provided my silly man did not accept the place which on his family's account I was keeping open for him before next Monday morning. I came home and at once send word to them to come up, or rather for the wife to come up. My hired woman had told me how worried the wife was. She came and I told her that I had agreed with the man, that if her husband did not go to work this week as he had done, his chance for it would be over and on Monday I would see the new man again. She said he would no doubt be glad to begin work in the morning.

March 8: Thursday.

7 A.M. The man has been at work some time already. He is wonderfully satisfied I doubt not. And I guess it is better for me. He knows what to do. A new man I would have to teach.

March 9: Friday.

The man has been at work with a will, and let me say he is much gladder that it is settled than I am. The men have been to work today (I have Baker with the other man) at Joseph's small house, grape arbor, and sowing clover seed and so forth. It is a great comfort to me that "Jim" returned, and part of the comfort is to know that he and his family are so relieved of their fears, for want of work, having to move, &c., &c., &c.

An interesting letter yesterday from Dr. Warsa Royer, and two today from Joseph and Sarah C. F. Hallowell. All very interesting indeed.

The Newspapers are filled every day with the struggle the people are making to defeat the "Wilson Tariff Bill," and to so arrange their views about the Hawaia [sic] affairs as to satisfy the Hawaiians and this country, but this business is now covered up by the greater importance of the former business.

How strange that hundreds of thousands, yes tens of hundreds of thousands of our Northern people are petitioning Congress not to pass [a] "Bill" so injurious to their interests, and yet old Cleveland, the President and the Democratic Party are pressing it to a vote because the Confederates, who should have been hung thirty years ago, are the leading spirits in his Cabinet, and both houses having democratic majorities that they can do as they please against the Republican Party. Well, I hope to live to see how the passage of the bill will affect the business of the Northern States.

There are so many thousands of good men who are Democrats, and yet are so earnestly in favor of what is being done, that I feel that possibly the views in favor of it in these papers may possibly be better than I who read Republican papers only, than I think them.

March 10: Saturday.

Last night I had an attack of palpitation. After waiting a quarter of an hour, I took ice-water and checked it. Then at 2 o'clock this morning it came again. I drank a tin cup full nearly, as it was not quite cold enough; it did not go off. So I lay down again and in an hour or so it left.

Then at 6 ½ I awoke with it on me. The water arrested it. At 9 A.M. I went to Post Office and while in the carriage got it. Rode home, took the water, without avail. Waited and began to read the "morning paper." [It] went off in about an hour. It is now 5 P.M. and I have not lain down since morning & have not had an attack since 9 A.M.

March 11: Sunday.

Read the "Friends Intelligencer & Journal" from end to end. I like very much to read it on First-day mornings. Then read a medical paper, looked a while among my minerals, &c., &c. Wrote letters to

1. Dr. Henry Umstad [Umstead], about Hydrophobia;
2. Dr. Wm. B. Ulrich, proposing to have him for Prest. of the State Society;
3. Dr. Ellwood Longshore, approving of the course pursued by his son-in-law Blankenberg in prosecuting the usurers; a letter also to
4. Mrs. E. B. Conrow, Sec. of Com. of W.C.T.U.

March 12: Monday.

Last evening when about to go to bed I took a second dose of 12th of a grain of

sulph. morph. and a teaspoonful of the Elixir of Quinine 2 grs, Iron 4 grs. and Strychnia 1/60 of a grain. I had only taken in the day time twice instead of 3 times as I had taken it some weeks ago. I therefore mixed another dose of the Elixir & the morph. sulph. to take up stairs with me, to take if I should get palp. in the night, as I had been so worried two nights ago by its attacking me four times.

At 3 o'clock this morning I was awakened by the palp., so got up and took the ice-water, which stopped it at once. Then concluded to go down and get me a dose, so poured the morph. sol. 1/12 gr and the Elixir containing the 1/60 of sulph Strychnia into a tumbler from which I had taken a spoon, and at once swallowed the medicine. As soon as I had done so, it seemed to me to be a larger dose than there should be, and instantly it flashed upon me that I had forgotten to take the dose I had mixed before I went to bed, up to bed with me, and now had added another dose to it and had poured the medicine into the teaspoons without having on my spectacles and might have poured each time more than a spoonful not being able to see the fluid well. I, of course, knew that the dose of Strychnia was even with both doses only 1/30 of a grain, but how much might have run over after the spoon was filled each time I could not say.

I always had a dread of the Strychnia even in the small doses which I had taken before, and it made me feel somewhat uncomfortable. So did not sleep any more and got up at 6 A.M. I will be careful hereafter not to mix my medicine without having my spectacles on.

I ought to say here that from the 24th of Feb. until the third of March I did not receive a letter, though all winter they had come daily, and the 23rd of March there were five.

It is astonishing to me. For years, it seems to me, hardly a day has passed that I did not receive one or more.

March 14: Wednesday.

Had palpitation twice in bed last night, awakened with it. The ice-water took it off, but it seems as though it certainly must be injurious to take so much cold water, as cold as is needed in my case. Still, I have to do it or suffer the rapid beating of the heart to continue.

At 9 A.M. Joseph Garretson, brother Alan's grand-son came to see me. He had a wild tramp-like look, so tall, so crippled (apparently) in his lower limbs, his legs so thin and walking as though his feet were sore, but I knew him and found him interesting, such a reader that you can hardly take him on any subject, save scientific ones, in which he is not posted very well.

He is engaged in a grocery store in Jacksonville, Florida, and in a small room adjoining the store, he teaches a dozen children, most of them colored. When teaching, if one comes to the store and the bell rings, he leaves the pupils and waits on the customer, then back to the school again. It is only a small grocery store.

He has come up to get about \$500 that his mother left him a few months since. I asked him what he intended to do with it? He said he had bought 22 acres of Pine timber land where the ground is very fertile for 40 dollars, also a lot of five acres with a log hut on it, for even less than that. He would pay for them and then bury the remainder in a tin-box in his room, or in a small yard attached. I entreated him not to do so, but to invest it here at 5 per cent, but he did not seem to approve of that.

By request I gave him my photograph, and I also gave him Dr. Eugene Corson's book on the condition & prospects of the Southern colored people. After a visit of an hour, he left us. Many years ago he was for a time considered insane and left home penniless and traveled by rail-way hundreds and hundreds of miles and was away for weeks.

March 15: Thursday.

Yesterday afternoon I went to Consho. on business and to see the men at work, then to Spring Mill to meet Miss Katharine Forwood of Maryland, daughter of a medical friend now deceased. She came at 4 P.M. I got from my dau. Mrs. Lukens, the last of my paper on Hydrophobia and after supper arranged and corrected it.

Had palp. at midnight, took the ice-water with the usual result. Had not been in bed more than ten minutes after I returned to it before it came again. Had to take it again. Came once after that before morning, but went off in a few minutes. My sleep was greatly broken and had not gotten to sleep at all until eleven. Had taken no medicine yesterday until evening and then very little, only 1/12 gr. of sulph. morph.

Our visitor is a great rebel, merely because she lives in what was once a Slave State. She attempts to show me that the murder of Lincoln by Booth was not the result of a conspiracy of himself, Sarah and the man who attempted the murder of Seward. "No Sah." I did not let her go far. It was ill-timed in her, and I thought proper to not allow such stuff to be thrown in my face without checking it, which I did pretty effectively.

At 8 o'clock rec'd. letters from my good, old friend Traill Green, M.D. and others of less note. I am pretty well this morning. Was up at sunrising.

The trial of Miss Pollard against the great Breckenridge of Kentucky for "Breach of Promise of Marriage," has been in progress several days in Washington. He is, has been, one of the most loved and flattered of all the Southern Senators & Congressmen who have served the South for many years, also a great Sunday School promoter and moral teacher. No great man has ever been stripped to nakedness and his deformities, hypocrisy and lust been more shown, [than] has he been during several days already. His wife was a gd.-dau. of the great Henry Clay, but this man, having child after child by this poor girl whom he seduced and promised to marry as soon as his wife would die & be out of the way.

March 16: Friday.

One palp. at midnight. Took water. Slept pretty well. Went to Norristown & to the Hospital for the Insane this forenoon, took Miss Forwood and Mary. Home by one P.M., after doing a good many things in Norristown.

Jawood Lukens & Susan & Miss Emily Corson & the wife of Percy came this afternoon. Did the usual am't. of reading, writing, overseeing the man & boy, &c., &c. While in Norristown the palp. struck me. I went into a Confectionary and got a glass of ice-water, which took it off at once. How efficient & how strange that it should continue to have so good an effect. No medicine I have ever tried would do it.

March 17: Saturday.

Up at 6:20. Beautiful, bright morning. No palp. last night. Slept pretty well.

Took Mary and Miss Forwood to Hospital yesterday I have said above. As I could not do all I wanted then, I went again at 8 ½ A.M. today and after doing a good many things, was home by noon. After 2 P.M. took Miss F. to Sp. Mill, bought her a ticket, gave her a little money and then rode around in "business intent" till near sunset. How sad it seems to me to see young girls like these daughters of Dr. Forwood left without a dollar to live on. While he lived and was the physician of Darlington, they were one of the "first families," if not the very first. Now as the poorest, they of course are not revered as before and scarcely know what to do to make a living. Indeed can not get anything to do by which to make it, without becoming servants in some one's family, which they will not do until still harder pressed.

I seem to have so many to care for now, and to supply with clothes, education, &c., that I am compelled to do less than I wish to do.

Had two pretty strong spells of palp. last night before midnight, and one afterward. Let the last one go on, got asleep, after a couple of hours awakened and it was away.

March 18: Sunday.

Have already written some and have read almost all of Friends Intelligencer & Journal of last week. What I wrote about my palps. on the last page should have been written this morning as having occurred last night.

9 P.M. Miss Ida Corson and her friend, Miss Stevenson who was Helen's nurse in England, & Charles Highley, brother Charles Corson's gd.son, the Cashier of the

[empty space] Bank, & his sister were all here part of the afternoon. At 5 P.M. Therm. 64° in the shade. It was a very warm day since 10 o'clock.

I neglected to say that Jawood Lukens and Susan were here this afternoon. Have read some, a good deal of Matthew. Hardly know what to think of it. Seems to me, [it] would be deeply interesting if it should be regarded as a narrative of a Reformer, but then would be liable to the imputation of untruthfulness and gross exaggeration [sic] and deception.

Persons who can believe in the "miraculous Conception" may readily believe in casting out of Devils, raising the dead, &c., &c., but those of us who do not, can regard the history as one not inaptly, and pretty reasonably, placed along-side of the history of the author of Mormonism, Joe Smith. Regarded simply as an innocent reformer who was hunted from place and finally caught and executed by the Jews as one not agreeing with their doctrines and practices, and making allowances for the exaggerations which are made by writers and false witnesses to events. The narrative reminds me greatly of the experience of Garrison, Lovejoy and others who suffered persecutions and sometimes death at the hands of mobs, as too did the Quakers, 350 of them who in the first 50 years of the Society met death for Conscience sake, Friends Intelligencer, 3rd. mo. 17th, 1894.

I have also read one number of "The Journal of Hygiene."

March 19: Monday.

Staid at home nearly all day, so as to let the man, James, have the horses to plough with. At 9 A.M., having no one to go for the mail, I started to walk to the Plymouth Store for it. Got half way, when I was struck by palp. I, however, kept on slowly and when I got to the hill on my way home, I had to sit on the bank of the gutter.

After getting my breath pretty well, I started again and it was a hard pull. Just like going up stairs, [it] weakened my knees, but when I got up, off went the palp. Won't try it again. Worked among my minerals a good deal to engage and interest me. It is wonderful what pleasure I have in reading the history of every one that I handle.

Last night was not a pleasant one. I had not taken any tonic or anodyne for a couple of days, and I could not get to sleep. My legs twitched in bed and I could not continue these. Got up several times, was not uncomfortable otherwise. The 1/12th of a grain of morph. would have quieted me greatly. It is wonderful how small a dose avails me.

March 20: Tuesday.

8 A.M. [Am] pretty fair notwithstanding a rather poor rest.

6 P.M. Have used every leisure moment in overlooking my minerals. Am astonished how many I have, and what interesting ones. But they are all interesting, as all natural objects are. What will I do with them? I dislike to part with them yet I must. I think of getting them into two lots, as I have so many duplicates, and give one lot to the "George School," the other to the Norristown High School.

As I grow older and older, I realized more the beauty and vitality of the objects which surround me on every side. I feel now, too, as if I would like to engage in studies of several kinds, and yet how queer and useless it seems to let such thoughts fill my mind, at this age.

Tomorrow my "paper" on Hydrophobia will be read by a friend and I expect some, only two Philadelphians to be present. It is a long and I think a very interesting exposition of the disease and the neglect of physicians to investigate it. The County is aghast with fear of it. And yet, it is matter of doubt whether in the countless cases bruited abroad, there is a single real hydrophobic one.

March 21: Wednesday.

I did not sleep very well. I had been much with my minerals in the afternoon, and so dreamed about them. If I can get to sleep readily upon going to bed, the night is generally very comfortable. Rainy morning. Frannie expected to be at Sp. Mill at 10:42, but I fear the rain will keep her back.

The reading of my essay, rather my report on Hydrophobia is to come off today after 2 P.M.

Nine P.M. At 10 A.M. I went to Spring Mill and brought daughter Frannie Day home with me. Immediately after dinner I took James to drive me to Norristown, and at 2 ½ my paper was read in our Medical Society. It took 1 ½ hours of time. Then Dr. Dulles of Phila. spoke for 10 or 15 minutes, taking the position that he has held for some years, that Hydrophobia is not a specific disease, and disbelieving that the bite of a mad-dog will cause Hydrophobia in human beings.

The members of our Society were so utterly ignorant of the subject, that our discourses were greatly enjoyed by them, and more attention will be given to the subject than heretofore. It was a wet afternoon, so the audience was small. I reached home at 6 ½ P.M.. Have had supper.

March 22: Thursday.

Slept very well. No palp. last night. Rose at 6, Breakfast at 7. At 7 ½ went to the barn to see the men loading straw. While there, palp. struck me strongly. By the time I got into the house and up stairs to the bath room where the ice-water is always ready for me, I was so exhausted, or rather so unable to go because of the weakness of my knees and shortness of breath, rapid breathing, that I felt I must lie down before attempting to take the water. So worked my way to the bed and threw myself on it, on my left side. When I first had the palpitation fifty years ago, or thereabouts, to lie on my left side would take it off almost instantly. So now, I waited about 10 minutes and it stopped. Glad of it I was, so that I need not take the water. I am just over it and down stairs doing this writing.

March 23: Friday.

Had a very good night, which means that I was not out of bed oftener than every hour and half, and that after looking at my watch, walking out to the entry and taking a crust of bran-bread or a ginger cake and a drink of cold water. Sometimes I get back to bed and soon fall asleep. I rather like these breaks in the slumber and the walks around, inasmuch as they are not accompanied with worry, are only the common attendants on old age. A palp., but I was still 10 ' and it left. How strange it seems to me when I realize that I am the oldest person living within miles around, and but here and there in all Phila. a few persons of my age who are conspicuous that we hear of them! There are, no doubt, hid-away in by-places, some who despite the "bad sanitary environments" have reached even a greater age than the oldest whom I know has.

The numerous suicides are readily accounted for I think, not because of poverty but of worry. The "silver tongued" Kentucky idol ought to be looking towards it. Yet I think he will be acquitted.

March 24: Saturday.

Up at ¼ of six. Slept pretty well. Palp. twice but both times it went off after I had lain on my left side ten or fifteen minutes. It seems almost ridiculous to thus recording my night condition every morning. But there are very few persons of my age who have to contend with such a difficulty as my palp., but in truth very few of them there are who do not have more to bear. It seems strange that I should have been able to live on in much comfort despite this embarrassment for fifty years.

A lovely morning. And oh! how beautiful our yard, lawn, the fashionable man would have said, is. So green, so clean, the trees just budding, the evergreens taking a brighter hue. What will this day bring forth! How much of sorrow! Of Joy! Of births and deaths what vast numbers!

9 P.M. I was pretty busy all the afternoon with my minerals, and looking now and then for the workmen to do. I had the stones picked from the Godfrey lot, had it rolled, all the stubble got away by raking the field with the horse rake.

A few minutes after six P.M. I got up from the lounge, where I had lain for a few minutes, and stepped to the table to take supper. A moment after I sat down I became giddy. Things seemed to be going around. After two or three minutes the giddiness seemed to be less, and I rose to see if I could walk. I was very unsteady, but reached the lounge, and after a little while was quite well again.

My friend, Hon. John Wood, Esq. of Conshohocken was attacked a week ago, with what seemed a brain trouble at first not unlike a pretty strong vertigo, or rather confusion of mind, which gradually in a day or two became almost like palsy, could not talk, &c. I went yesterday to call on him. He can talk now. He is 12 years younger than myself.

March 25: Sunday.

Pretty good night, no palpitation. Dull, mucky morning, but the birds are flying around looking for breakfast. Just outside of the window at my left hand a fine red-breasted Robin is jumping along and picking at something or other that he sees in the grass. It is almost too cold yet to say with our Poet Geo. Boker,

“With song of birds and hum of bees,
And odorous breath of swinging flowers,
With fluttering herbs and swaying trees,
Come in the early morning hours.”

2 P.M. I went to meeting. There were sermons from Lukens Webster of Germantown and from Robert Hatton, now living near here. They both, like all preachers whom I hear, use the Word God too much. Old Elias Hicks once said in my presence, “that any of us, if we would attend to the divine monitions with us, could become as Christ had become, so filled with the good spirit that we could resist temptations to evil.” The doctrine that every child that is born comes into the world possessing a good, kind spirit and an evil spirit, in other words, a spirit of goodness, of kindness, and another spirit which manifests itself very early, of discontent, anger and to avenge ill treatment. Not that it comes here under the protection and rule of a Being called God, anxious for our good and for his Glory, especially the latter; and followed and haunted by another Being, a Devil, leading us into all evil doings and trying to circumvent the measures which the other good Being is using for our benefit & safety.

This then is what I would like them to bear in mind, that we are born with these good tendencies and that though thus “Bound by Fate, the human will is left free to choose the good or ill.” In addition to this as Friends as well as the Scriptures say, “God is a spirit & should be worshipped in spirit and in truth.” They might instead of saying God, say the “good spirit,” or “the divine spirit” & the “evil spirit,” instead of Devil.

9 P.M. After dinner I slept 1 ½ hours. Then rose and read and wrote a long letter to dau. Frannie Day. Then took up “Genesis” again and cont’d. it till it came to an end.

After supper at six, as the woman and her son (just from Girard College) went to an Easter Sunday School entertainment, Mary and I went at our reading. I finished “Genesis,” then began on Exodus, and read all of it until they were through the Red-Sea. What a Munchausen [Munchausen, Münchhausen] History it is. I am glad that I have continued at it, as I now have the connected history fresh in my mind in its entirety. How amazing that the people [and] whole nations should accept such incredible stories as truth.

I will finish Exodus as soon as I can conveniently in intervals from my other duties, so as to have the history complete. What an improper book to be used as a book to be read in schools as was universally done when I was a boy. Over and over again we

went through this book, more fun for us. We cared nothing for the text. No young person of either sex should read it.

Had a palp. at 8 P.M.. [It] soon went off. It is now 9:20 P.M., the woman and her son have come home, and I will [be] off to bed.

March 26: Monday.

Fair night, though up often, rose before six. Cold. Therm. 26°, three days ago at 76 in the shade, afternoon. Have been a half hour arranging in my papers in the desk & drawer, and am now ready for the days work, whatever it may be.

9 P.M. Kept close to the house today, wrote and rec'd. letters. Read Exodus. Moses was a cunning but unprincipled man, and the Israelites believed every word he said, made them believe himself & the Lord had a long talk on the mountain & the Lord told him what he should do. And what amazing things they, the Israelites, did for him because they believed the Lord had so said to Moses. And how pursing [sic] strange that from that day to the present, they observe the rules laid down by Moses, second hand from the Lord.

March 27: Tuesday.

Had several letters this morning. Oh! how cold. The wind is hard to bear. Rec'd., wrote, and employed myself with fixing my minerals and becoming better acquainted with them.

Mary getting to manage her Roller-Chair better. It will be a comfort to her when the weather becomes warmer, that she can get to the yard.

Have written three letters and rec'd. three.

March 28: Wednesday.

Slept well last night. Feel well this morning. Therm. 22°. No palp. yesterday or last night.

9 P.M. I have been at Norristown this afternoon. Had I known the wind was so cold, I would have deferred the trip, though there were many things I needed to do, and all of which I did satisfactorily. Home by 5 P.M.

Three letters rec'd. Three sent today. Nothing of importance to report. Sent or rather took a pair of dressed fowls to Tacie.

March 29: Thursday.

Awakened at 11 last night with palp. Waited nearly half an hour for it to leave, but it did not and I had to take a big drink of ice-water. That did it. At 2 o'clock I was seized with cramp in both legs below the knee and clear down to the ankle and feet. I got up and rubbed them and made efforts to walk around, but it cont'd. with a slight abatement for quarter of an hour, or more, and afterwards short spells of it came & went. I had but little sleep after 2 A.M., the first attack

March 30: Friday, and March 31: Saturday.

Nothing occurred of consequence. Was at Norristown both days to see about matters, also at Consho. with the men.

April 1: Sunday.

Up early, before six. Read much before 10 ½ A.M. when Jawood came, also Charles Foulke and John J. Corson's son John Jay Corson who is on a vacation from a school on Hudson River, N.Y.

I have great pleasure in my minerals now, and yet much thought about what to do with them. I will arrange them, have one of every kind put together, and give them to some school or College. Then another set like the first, but may not have quite so complete a set because I have not duplicates of them all. So I can supply, pretty well, two schools or colleges.

April 2: Monday.

6 A.M. Had much cramp in my right leg last night. Had also one bad spell of palpitation. After giving it opportunity to leave for an hour or so, resorted to ice-water with instant effect.

Read many chapters in Deuteronomy last evening before bed-time. Am desirous to have in my mind the connected history by Moses. If there ever was such a man, he was a cunning one. I have little belief in any part of it. His making the Israelites believe that when he went up into the mountain, to meet the Lord, they must not come up lest they would be consumed by the fire (that he had built there), [it] would consume them, and that the Lord was in it talking to him is too bald a trick for the present day. So too when he and the Lord met on the mountain or elsewhere, they must stay away, and after his conference with the Lord he would come down and tell them the Commandments God had given him for their guide in action.

If ever there was a book written which was constructed to impel the reader to reject and despise a God, this is the one above all others.

April 3: Tuesday.

6 ½ A.M. Up at six. Slept pretty well. No palp. Therm. 22° F. At 9 A.M. went to Norristown to do a number of things. Got seed oats, deposit in Bank, see my new tenants, buy paint for Tacie's iron fence, see the publisher of my pamphlets, &c., &c. After dinner Helen came here. She now lives in Washington. I took a short nap, then busied myself with my minerals. It seems to me quite strange that I have such a desire to look over my minerals and get better acquainted with them. It is now 5 P.M.

April 4: Wednesday.

Took not a bit of the weak sol. since noon yesterday when I took two tea-spoonful [sic]. Got asleep sooner than usual and slept pretty well, though I had greatly feared I would have to take a couple of teaspoonsful. How strange it is that I am so afraid to take even half a grain of morpheum in 24 hours. As I had no palp. last night and none yet this morning, I will take no more med. until after I shall have had an attack.

5 P.M. Brought Frannie from the Cars at 10:42. Took her back by way of Consho. to meet the 4 ½ train at Sp. Mill. She wished to see Susan, who is poorly, a few minutes. At Spring Mill I picked up some-one's umbrella, thinking it mine. When I got home and found what I had done, I told little Jimmy to take it back. He took the wrong one. They were together and he took mine. Then I sent his father after him with the stranger's one. Old Jimmy did not want to do it, but I was determined. I am now

awaiting their return.

Am doing without any medicine, tonic or anodyne, and have had no palp. since Monday's came in. It was just about midnight of Ap. 1st and 2nd.

9 P.M. Reading Bakewell's Geology nearly all the evening. Greatly more interesting than when read years ago.

April 5: Thursday.

9 P.M. Bertha and her Aunt Rebecca Corson, wife of Robert, spent most of the day here. Daughter Susan has been confined to bed several days. Not very ill, yet I advised her yesterday and today to get up. There is such a practice among physicians now to keep sick people, if sick at all, in bed, day after day, that it makes me believe they want to prolong the case.

April 6: Friday.

It is cold and windy, so I have kept in the house nearly all the time. Was very weak and uncomfortable till 4 P.M. Then took 1/8 gr. of sulph. morph. and a tonic of Quinine, Iron and Strychnia 1/60 of a grain. Now I feel very comfortable.

April 7: Saturday.

6 A.M. Feel fine this morning. Slept well, a little better than common at least.
8 P.M. I had to stay at home today as the man wanted both horses to the plough. So, I read, wrote letters, busied myself with overlooking my hundred specimens of minerals and thus employed the time thoroughly.

April 8: Sunday.

9 P.M. Went to Meeting, after having read much of the Friends Journal & Intelligencer. Joel preached but I heard not a word of the sermon, nor did I care to. I prefer the quiet thinking time. There I was told that Lewis Thompson, a neighbor whose mother & grandmother too I knew well, jumped in the cistern at midnight and was drowned. He was quite a fine young man. His mother was quite insane many years ago. Poor fellow! He could not get to sleep, so went down to try the lounge. His mother heard him going down & asked him if he was sick. He said he could not sleep and would lie [on] the lounge.

In the afternoon I had some former patients and friends to come to me for medical advice. Busied myself about the minerals and did a good deal of reading and writing [which] occupied all the time.

April 9: Monday.

9 P.M. The horses were again engaged all day, so I was all day at home and engaged in reading, writing and in arranging and studying my minerals. It is wonderful how pleasant this latter employment is and how rapidly I am becoming acquainted with them.

No palp. yesterday, last night, or today. Felt pretty strong and well, with one eighth grain of sulph. morph. in 24 hours, taken 1/16th at a time.

The men planting potatoes. Some ice last night, a cool sharp air all day.

April 10: Tuesday.

6:05 A.M. Up at 5:30. Therm. 36° F. Slept well last night. Dreamed about my minerals very much. It was a pleasant theme. Also dreamed of some friends of many years ago. How strange that things and doings which would be regarded as ridiculous and unnatural were they done when awake, pass as proper enough when we sleep and dream.

No palpitation last night. Feel strong and well, all owing to having taken the 1/8 gr. morph. yesterday and days before.

2 ½ P.M. It has been snowing fiercely from the East since noon. Very fine, not big loose flakes. The men were planting potatoes, but were driven home by the storm.

4 P.M. I have had a nap on the lounge. O, how comfortable the lounge is! and how quiet the house! Mary was up stairs and Tildy, the woman in the kitchen. It is still snowing from the East, but is not covering the ground rapidly, as it is fine & rain like now.

Bed-time, 9 P.M. Still snowing, with a strong East wind.

April 11: Wednesday.

7 A.M. All night the storm cont'd. During the night the wind blew off one of the windows outside shutters and broke, as it was blown around, a pane of glass. Through this broken pane, the cold wind came sweeping in. I found the room seemed very cool at 1 A.M., and I piled on another thick bed-cover, so was then pretty comfortable. Did not know till I rose this morning that the window glass had been broken. Up at 5:40. Therm. in a very exposed place at 6 A.M. only 34° F. and now at 8 only 36. Still, it snows. A stormy day for the funeral of Lewis Thompson. A week ago this day, I suppose no thought of so sudden and tragic a death had crossed his mind. O how little we know of what may happen to us, and when and where!

Creatures of accident and circumstances, from our first, faint, weak movements as a bit of plasma, until the grave swallows us.

The Robins are hopping about, just outside the window, looking for breakfast. They were about the lawn when I rose at 5:40. They look somewhat haggled & wet then.

Our sparrows, scores of them have fine protection in the stables, wood house, sheds, &c., even in the hay and straw mounds, and when in the morning and evening when James feeds our more than sixty fowls, the little sparrows slip in and out among the rushing, eager chickens for their share of the meals. The wind abating somewhat.

7 P.M. The wind I said was abating. No, it kept at it all day, but a little less fiercely as the hours went on. So too the snow and rain. Therm. 38° at noon. So, there is but little more snow on the fields now than this morning.

I have had but one spell of palp. Have felt pretty good and strong, and read and wrote and toyed with the minerals industriously. It is almost too dark to read or write, so close. The Thermometer now at 7 P.M., 35° F. Wind still in the East.

April 12: Thursday.

One palp. last night which awakened me and for which I had to take the ice-water after waiting ¼ hour for it to stop without it. Slept pretty [well] though.

The storm, as far as high wind is concerned, is pretty much over, but it is still heavily clouded and "spitting" a little snow. Therm. 36° F. and air damp and cold to a great degree.

I hoped to be off to Norristown this morning to collect interest, &c., but I am to be kept in the house I fear.

9 o'clock A.M. After breakfast I took up the old family Bible, Father's and Mother's Bible, and read the Book of Joshua. What a horrible history if true, and what a Lord these people had, who could thus be so atrocious as to have thousands of people slain and tortured before they were slain, hosts of them. But it is a partial satisfaction that it was not true that the Lord had any thing to do with it. Joshua like Moses, was a crafty, selfish, cruel leader of the Israelites, Deceiver of the ignorant multitude, declaring to them that the Lord wished them thus to destroy the City of Ai, the men, the women, and the children, of men & women 12,000, and after that went on to destroy kingdom after kingdom and their thousands of people. What an infamous thing for our people to speak reverently of such deceivers, murderers as Joshua and Moses.

April 13: Friday.

At Norristown in the forenoon to do several little things. In afternoon, went to W. Ely's to get Int. on my School Bonds. But as he was not at home, Jimmy & self went to Soap stone quarry below Sp. Mill to get minerals. Palp. twice, one requiring ice-eater.

April 14: Saturday.

Bright morning. Therm. 34°, but crisp, cool air. Busy at home till noon. Then took Geo. Baker to Tacie's to do some work. I went from there to Bank to deposit money, visited Dr. Whitcomb, Sec. of our Medical Society, and did a good many other things. Home before five. Met Dr. J. K. Read in Bank. Poor Fellow! He looks poorly. Finds farming quite a poor business, compared with his former lucrative practice.

April 15: Sunday.

6 A.M. Yesterday afternoon I took little Jim, as I call him, and went down to soap stone quarry to get some good specimens of soap-stone, chlorite, &c.

9 P.M. Read the Friends Intelligencer & Journal all through in the forenoon, before Susan and Jawood came at 10 ½ A.M. After dinner read some, worked some among my minerals, &c., till 3 ½ P.M., when I took Mary with me to Barren Hill to see an old friend and patron, Mrs. Sallie Dager, who is only about two years younger than myself, but very much afflicted. For six weeks recently she has taken no solid food and only a few spoonfuls of soup daily. Is also nearly blind and quite bed-ridden. All the sisters & others who were there, and all of whom I had often attended, seemed so thankful that I had come to see her, as she also did. From there we went a little further to see Henry Hellings' family, spent but a quarter of an hour with them greatly to their satisfaction apparently. Then came up the Germantown turnpike road to George Dagers. He is four years younger than myself and greatly afflicted in many ways, nearly blind, too, and wretched in many ways. He and his family were greatly pleased with our visit.

It seemed to me that I could not have employed myself better in any other way than in thus visiting old friends and patrons and showing my respect and feeling for them.

Before reaching home, we stopped a brief time with James Huston's family. They live close by the home of Mrs. Thompson, whose son jumped into the cistern and was drowned one night last week, or the Saturday night before last week. The Huston young ladies were very kind in waiting on and comforting Mrs. Thompson all they could.

April 16: Monday.

9 P.M. It is unnecessary to tell of my three attacks of palp. and of the many cramps in my limbs during last night, and that the palps. all disappeared without using ice-water, and the cramps, as is their wont, "went off," and I got a good deal of good sleep.

The mail this evening brot me a marked newspaper containing an account of an oration given to Dr. Traill Green and wife, my friends in Easton, Pa., at the end of fifty years of married life. I have put it in the back part of the book.

April 17: Tuesday.

I have been to Norristown today and all day have been quite busy doing needed things. The great Breckenridge Trial is over. The divorce granted to Miss Pollard and \$15,000 awarded to her as damages. The verdict [was] generally approved. He, defiant, nonchalant as before and pressing for a re-election to Congress. No great man, so esteemed before this exposure, was ever shown to be a more brazen villain, and yet it will not surprise me if the Kentucky people cling to him.

As both horses have been engaged today, I have been at home all day, part of it, not feeling well. But the minerals have been work and comfort for me.

Have written to Dr. and Mrs. Green congratulating them on the love bestowed by friends & relatives on their having completed fifty years of married life. Myself and wife lived together more than, or about 53 years.

April 18: Wednesday.

Went to Norristown to get measured for suit of "Broad-cloth" clothes, \$28, also to deposit \$45 in Bank. Home by 10 A.M. At Spring Mill at 10:42 for Frannie. Just as we reached home at eleven, daughter Susan came. She sent "the man" home. So we had the day to ourselves with Mary, whom I had with me at Norristown in the morning.

I have been quite uncomfortable since noon, sore feet, pain & weakness in left arm and fore-arm and one spell palp. Had one also at 3 A.M. this morning. Had to take ice-water in both cases, after waiting half hour, or so, to let the palp. disappear.

Skipped Thursday. It was an average with others.

April 20: Friday.

Slept very well. Am feeling well this morning. Wrote a rather unusually long letter, even for me to write who never writes short ones, and have sent it to the morning mail for 9 A.M. to Phila.

9 P.M. The day is over. I have been to Norristown this P.M. to see the publisher of my pamphlets, by his request, also to see Tacie & Ellwood and John. I got Helen's man to take me up in the carriage drawn by her fine, large, bay horse. It was a pleasant and rapid ride. Home by four o'clock. Have since written two long letters to Dr. John B. Roberts and Dr. Chas. Thomas, the latter a reply to one rec'd. this morning.

The "Coxey's Commonweal Army" is nearing Washington from all directions, under innumerable difficulties. I think a greater pack of Tramps was never seen before in this world. From this time until they besiege Washington, I will save Newspaper accounts of them.

April 21: Saturday.

6 A.M. The clock struck while I wrote the six A.M. At 5 I was struck with palp., waited a while, resorted to several little expedients to stop it, but they failed and I had to "take the water." It succeeded and I returned to the bed. In 10 minutes it was at me again, and again the water was efficient. It amazes me now that I could have it beating away almost every time it occurred from 8 to 10, 12, 16, even on one occasion 22 hours. After it passed off the second time, I dressed myself for fear it would recur again, as it is quite a fatiguing thing to dress myself when the palp. is on me. Even at 5 o'clock, the chickens were on the lawn pecking away very industriously, and the Robins on the ground and on the tree tops.

Last night's mail brot me a splendid letter from my nephew Thomas Adamson, the Ex-Consul General. He is a fine writer, has been so much with many distinguished men and is so familiar with the stirring events of the age, that his letters are treasures. Had also three other letters.

April 22: Sunday.

6 ½ A.M. Slept pretty well, and now after washing and dressing feel comfortable. My paper "on vaccination" appeared in the Norristown Herald yesterday. There has been a great deal written by some nameless Homeopathist, denouncing it as a pernicious measure. I think my paper will do some good. I feel that I should have taken more time and care in the preparation of the paper, but it was done, almost on the impulse of the moment after reading some of the trash against vaccination. I will probably add something more.

There has been some rain during the night, and it is foggy this morning. Oh! how beautiful are the lawns, so green and, I may add, so clean. The evergreens now grow pretty large, and the maples and Lindens, now old, large and venerable looking, stand still as so many sentinels who have all night watched over us while we slept. The stately Elm tree, sent to me by Mr. Sargent, father of Dr. Winthrop Sargent and Doctor Gorman Sargent, both once members of our County Medical Society, how like a huge Umbrella lifted fifty feet high it attracts my attention as a Representative of New England. Breakfast is ready.

Now 9 o'clock P.M. let me record the doings of the day since breakfast. As usual I began to read Friends Intelligencer & Journal, but after an hour went to the school house and worked among my minerals, getting a better knowledge of them. After eleven Jawood & Susan came. They left after 12 noon. We had dinner and then I took Mary in the carriage down to the Conshohocken field to see a piece of sod-land in which the grass signally failed to appear, so that I might direct James whether or not to plough it for corn. On our return I selected some minerals to send to Bertha Yocom Jr. Had a palp. at 4 P.M. Then resumed reading the Intelligencer.

April 23: Monday.

Slept pretty well, awoke only four times. What a lovely morning!! Up at exactly five o'clock. Never did I see the grass on the lawn look more beautiful, or the birds more plenty and joyous. Breakfast is ready and I in a hurry to go with James, the farmer, to Conshohocken field to plan his work.

9 P.M. I brought Miss Lizzie Forwood from Spring Mill at 5 ½ P.M. She has been with us all the evening and quite entertaining. I have ridden in the carriage a good deal today and was tired and hungry at supper-time. We spent the evening pleasantly until now (9 P.M.) and now for bed.

April 24: Tuesday.

6 A.M. Last night I had a palp. at 10:30, had been in bed an hour. Took the ice-water. At 1 ½ this morning had it again, both times awaked with it. Again had to take the ice-water after waiting a while to see if it would leave. At 5 A.M. it struck me again while lying awake. Again I waited quite a while, but finally took the water. Every time the water acted promptly. Then dressed myself and came down, though no one else was stirring. As our visitor is here, and I have much to do and fear that I may have other attacks, I have just taken 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. and one teaspoonful of Tinct. of gentian root, as much as I had taken for 24 hours before altogether. It was because I had not taken but 2/3rd of as much as I had taken for a few days, that probably led to so many attacks.

April 25: Wednesday.

6 ½ A.M. Therm. 42° F. Cool, pleasant morning. Did considerable riding yesterday after taking Miss Forwood to look at cows, as we need one very much. Never during sixty years have we had to buy milk and butter until within the past six weeks. Our cow has been sick. Took my medicine properly yesterday and had but one spell of palp. last night. Slept well too and feel pretty good and strong this morning.

9 P.M. Have been very busy all day. Left home at ¼ of 8, went to Charles Cox's & bought a cow for \$50, then to Norristown and did many things. Home at eleven, very weary. After a nap, very short one, and dinner, went to Consho. to get rents, paints, post letters, &c. Home soon after four, about with the men, having things repaired, &c.

April 27: Friday.

Palp. twice last night, awakened once by it. Water used successfully. Sleep a good deal disturbed by that and some trains of thought, which I fell into. Had an invitation from the Corporators and Medical Faculty of the Woman's Medical College of Pa., on May eighth, with special card for the Platform, last night. Will probably go. The 42nd annual Commencement.

My niece Hannah Adamson Pennypacker, dead. The following was received last evening, per mail from her daughter:

Schuylkill, 4. 26. 1894.

My Dear Uncle.

Mother passed away yesterday afternoon. She had become much weakened from Neuralgia, but we felt hopeful of

her recovery until third day evening when pneumonia developed.

The funeral will be on second day next at 2 o'clock.

Hoping thee is well and with much love from all

I remain, Thy affectionate niece

Sarah C.. Pennypacker.

April 28: Saturday.

After breakfast went to Consho. and got Susan to agree to meet me at Sp. Mill at 1:35 P.M. to go to Phila. I bought a fine over-coat at Wannamaker's, went to see Dr. Morton and was back at Spring Mill at 5 P.M.

We visit Napoleon Bonaparte relics rooms. Wonderful collection. I became very weak there, as the day was one like the middle of summer almost, and the rooms crowded. But I am now at home and none the worse of the trip that I can discover.

April 29: Sunday.

7 o'clock. None of the household, consisting of Mary and gd.daughters Georgie Corson Yocom and Dorothea Corson Yocom are yet down stairs. The cook has breakfast ready awaiting them. I have been up since 5 o'clock. At that time I had an attack of palp. After the ice-water fixed that off, I went into a general washing of my body and oh! how thin I am. It seems to me that my time is nearly out. The last year has changed me greatly. My face is very thin and my neck, too, and looks exactly as brother Williams did the last year of his life. Well, I can't expect at my age to be in full flesh. I am pretty well, strong and able. I hope to be at the funeral of my dear niece tomorrow. Her mother, my sister Mary, was a lovely and lovable woman. Just about 80 years ago, she taught a small school at Thomas Pugh's back of Norristown, mostly children of Friends, on Monday morning. She always was at home on Sundays. She would ride to school on the back of one of the horses, having a woman's saddle on, and behind her on his bare back I then 9 or 10 years old was seated. So we went the two or more miles, and then I brought the horse back home. There were few carriages then in the region. We had the first. We had the first "chair." Chairs soon became plenty, and some years after "Gigs," "Fallingtops," became favorable. It is pleasant to me to call up those incidents of so long ago. I am pretty firm in the belief that I shall not reach my ninety years of age though it is but 5 ½ (not many) months away.

It is perfectly lovely out of doors this morning. The yards all around the house, more than three acres with a sod covered with luxurious grass and of the deep green color that speaks of prior and abundant fertilizers having made it so. Dotted all over, as it is, with chickens of varied hues and birds hopping around, the picture is, from my window where I now write, delightful.

8 P.M. Dr. E. M. Corson & son & Richard Day spent the afternoon here, or part of it at least. They were quite surprised at the number and variety of my minerals. I have felt dull and as if I had eaten too much. Have been for a day or two thinking that I am not ----- [the rest is not legible].

April 30: Monday.

I was long getting to sleep last night. At 12 midnight I had palp., also at one, at a few minutes after two and before 4. four times in less than four hours. Three of the

times I had to resort to the ice-water, though I waited in every case a short time for them to leave. After the fourth time I came down and took the eighth of a grain of morph. and a teaspoonful of paregoric.

9 P.M. Have been to the funeral. Took daughter Tacie and went in the carriage. Grace Anna Lewis, Mary Thomas, and a man named Jones all preached in the room where we sat with the family. While waiting during an hour and a half in as deep a silence as possible, my heart dashed into palpating. For half an hour I sat upright and waited; it then left me. I was very warmly greeted by the two women preachers. In the graveyard, I saw the graves of Sister Mary and her husband Charles Adamson. She was a little beyond 85 years old when she died in 1877, and Charles over 81 when he died in 1883. So they were almost the same age when they married.

We came home, starting at 4 P.M. by way of Valley Forge, a most romantic ride. I stopped a short time to see Phebe Mulvany, née Roberts, at the Forge. She was a loved friend of sister Mary. Poor Woman! Now 76 years old, dropsied and sick for the past two years. She seemed glad to see me. We reached home after six P.M.

May 1: Tuesday.

6 A.M. Had palp. Last night at midnight. Water took it off. Had it again at 4 A.M. Water was not cold enough and so I bore it an hour, then it left. I have perhaps tried my strength too much the last week. The attacks are too frequent now.

9 P.M. I have felt pretty well today despite my excessive labor yesterday and my too disturbed sleep the past two nights. All day I have been at home, much of the time I have given to my minerals.

Wrote a very long letter to Oscar H. Allis of Phila. from whom I rec'd. one yesterday. Coxey and his ragged army of Commonwealers have arrived in Washington. We will soon see the end of this foolish work, I hope. Have taken no medicine yet today. Will try it without, as I have not an attack of palpitation since 4 A.M.

May 2: Wednesday.

I have never spent a more restless unpleasant night than the last, when I had no pain. I thought the house was so warm. It had been 85° in the shade in the middle of the day. So I took clothes off the bed, removed my long stockings, opened all the three windows and as I was feeling very well, expected to get to sleep early. I had not taken any med. for 36 hours. Soon my limbs began to twitch, but I persevered in my way. It was midnight when I thought I could bear it no longer, so got up and, though I should have said at midnight I got palp, had it ½ an hour, took about 1/12 gr. sulph. morph., but still went on with almost no cover. Until 4 A.M. I persisted and had no sleep. Then I closed the windows, shut the door, and covered myself heavily with bed-clothes. I then began to feel comfortable and kept piling on the clothes, got an hour's sleep, rose at 5:40 A.M.

It was a suffering night. It was just the state of worry when some, in desperation, commit suicide. After getting down stairs, I took 1/10 gr. sulph. morph. and ate breakfast. Now feel pretty comfortable. But suppose in rising after such a night, I had been confronted by creditors pressing for money from me, what then?

About 9 A.M. my nephew Thomas Adamson arrived. As he sent no word before hand, he had to walk up and it tired him a good deal. Susan came after dinner and the

two had their genealogical charts with them, so had quite an interesting time in examining them and making corrections where needed.

May 3: Thursday.

Mary went with me to Norristown where I had many things to do. Got an interesting letter from Joseph. The Coxey Army being located within a few blocks of his place, the barracks. He says that on May first when Coxey, Brown and Jones attempted to get on to the Capitol steps to harangue the people, the mob must have been at least 20,000 in numbers.

6 P.M. Have been to Chestnut Hill to collect interest. Roads unusually dusty for this time of year.

9 P.M. The loss of sleep for two nights prior to last night and the numerous palpitations have been pretty hard upon me, but I have felt tolerably well today. Have been to Norristown & Chestnut Hill both.

This is the last entry in this book as the two pages 144 and 145 come before this properly in the book, but by turning two leaves instead of one, those two were skipped and so, after filling 144-145, I came back to 143. This book therefore closes at page 143, on May 2nd, 1894.

May 4: Friday.

I regret that in beginning this new diary I have to speak of attacks of palpitation first. It occupied part of every day's record nearly all the year thus far. Last night I had no spell until five this morning, then one at 7, one at 9, one at 11 A.M.

May 5: Saturday.

Poor night, but went at 9 A.M. to Norristown, took Mary along. Home by noon. Made my report of monies at interest for the assessor. Bought a suit of clothes for Joseph R. Read, son of my nephew Joseph Read, who died pretty poor after having his vessel shipwrecked and some other disasters. He is in Halls drugstore and boards with daughter Tacie. I got him his clothes, \$12. I got him his situation and am helping him to graduate at the college of Pharmacy in Phila. Two palps.

Afternoon I went to Consho. on business. Had two palps. last night & three today, 5 in all. Planted corn today.

May 6: Sunday.

Slept better last night than for the three preceding. Had two spells of palp. in the night. Water efficient quickly after being taken every time.

The past week has been a week of great anxiety to law-abiding, decent people. Coxey's "Army" as it is called but really Coxey's ignorant idle tramps, thousands in number, coming without money, or food, and stealing locomotives & trains of cars to bring them on their journey from hundreds of miles away, coming as beggars from city to city, fed only by worthless enthusiasts with anarchist principles. While Coxey and his gang hundreds strong were on May 1st besieging the Capitol to have him harangue the mob 20,000 strong, so son Joseph estimates their numbers, from the steps of the Capitol where our Representatives and Senators are in session.

Add to this that in our bituminous coal region thousands of miners have “struck” for wages, and have gone from colliery to colliery, and forced others who wished to work, to leave it and join them in their villainous work. Son Joseph has a great opportunity to see what the “Coxey” wretches are doing as the Barracks are only a few blocks away from where they are encamped.

I have remained at home all day and have had palp. but once since breakfast. It was a lovely day to ride in the carriage, and I was desirous to go to Laurel Hill to see the lot where so many of “Mother’s” family and herself are at rest, but on second thought put it off on Mary’s account as I wish her to go along.

Jay and Susan came and went as usual. I read a good deal and wrote a long letter to my sister Mary’s good friend and now as dear to me.

[May 7]: Monday.

At midnight, before which I had struggled almost in vain for sleep, palp. struck me. I waited quite a while, indefinite term, to allow it to leave without being drowned out. Then took the ice-water and in a moment it was gone.

At 5 A.M. it was again on me and as the water was not quite cold enough, I had to make three attempts. Even then it did not yield, so I laid myself down in bed and after waiting a few minutes it left. It was to me a night of unrest, but still, as I am pretty well this morning, I need not, should not complain as there are so many whose severer troubles have no respite for them.

9 P.M. Have been at Norristown this afternoon. After getting through with some business matters, Mary (who was with me) and myself called to see the Misses Martha and Annie Yerkes, so long our Plymouth neighbors, and now for some years residents of Norristown, old maids, quite old and Martha pretty feeble. Had a short, but pleasant visit, then called at Lawyer Rodgers’ to whose daughter’s wedding I was recently invited. She had, that day, left for her new home in N. York State, or Vermont, I forget which. Then home. In the morning I had begun to take Elixir of sulph. Quinine 2 grs., Iron 2 grs., Strychnia 1/60 of a grain, 3 times daily, in every dose of which I will take 1/12 of a grain of sulph. morph. So now having taken it three times I feel, have all day felt, much better & quite a changed feeling.

May 8: Tuesday.

9 P.M. I slept well last night. Of course I was awake several times, but even then was comfortable and soon asleep again. Felt very well this morning. Was up at 5, at 8 on my way to Phila., at 9 on a visit to Dr. Charles H. Thomas and wife at 1807 Chestnut; at 9:50 with Dr. Jno. B. Roberts at 1627 Walnut; at 10:50 at daughter Bertha Yocom, 747 Broad St. On the lounge, covered well, till 11:15, then took an excellent lunch; at 12 was on the platform of the great Music Hall with the Alumni and Faculty of the Woman’s Medical College, whose 43 [42nd] annual Commencement was the business of the hour. Fifty-two young ladies ready to receive their diplomas, and 2000 spectators were before us. The ladies were called on to the platform, 26 at a time & the honor of M.D. bestowed on them after a short invocation by the venerated Rev’d. Furniss then in his 91st year. The address was by Dr. Clara Marshall.

At 2 P.M. was again at Bertha’s and from there she went with me to see a cousin in 7th St. above Wallace, not at home and we went to 512 6th St. N. to see Mrs. Saml.

Thompson whose mother, a daughter of Charles Jones of Montgomery tp., was a first cousin to Mrs. Corson, Bertha's mother. She and her sister, daughters of Dr. Ezra Lukens & Miss Jones, both married rich men. Had a pleasant visit to Mrs. Thompson & husband. Staid nearly half an hour, then made for Broad St. depot. On getting there had just 10 minutes before the train was off for Spring Mill at 3:36 P.M. Jimmy was waiting for me there and the grey mare soon whisked me off home. This was a heavy day's work. I could not have done it a few days ago, but today I have felt so well that I got along with comfort. Had an eager appetite for supper and am now ready for bed.

May 9: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Slept well last night. Felt pretty well when I rose at 5 ½. Had to be a witness in an arbitration at Norristown until noon. Since noon have done nothing worth recording. No palp. since I began taking med. steadily. Quite well and strong all day. To accommodate some friends I went to Norristown to witness in a case, a family dispute or fierce quarrel among brothers, to see who can get to be guardian of a half Aunt who has barely enough to live on. Got home at noon. How disgusting it seemed to me to see them quarreling, both sides professing to be so anxious for the poor, old woman's comfort, when each party was desirous only to be able to secure her money if she should die.

May 10: Thursday.

9 P.M. Daughter Frannie and her 2 ½ years old Richard I brought from Spring Mill after ten o'clock. Jawood and Susan came at 3 P.M. Frannie left for home at 4:10 P.M. I took her to the station. George Baker is painting the inside of the house. James Cunningham is cleaning all the rooms. Tilda is busy at the kitchen and in all her quarters, cleaning up, James Cunningham is mowing the yard with the lawn-mower. I took Frannie to the cars. Oh! I have said that before. We are really cleaning up things inside and outside of the house very thoroughly.

I feel so much better than I did last week that I incline to fix things as if I could enjoy them a while longer.

The weather is delightful now. Never did the country look so beautiful to me before. This is partly because the grass and grain are so green, so luxuriant, and partly owing to the fact that I feel I may soon have to take leave of it.

I sent a dollar a few days since to D. Appleton & Co. for "Aphorisms" from the writings of Herbert Spencer and have now received them. A glance at it leads me to the belief that it is valuable and a pleasure & possible profit to me. Certainly would fill a young mind with new thoughts.

Have been quite well and strong all day.

May 11: Friday.

9 P.M. Up at 5 A.M. after a pretty good night's rest. No palp., none at all I think since last Tuesday morning. Strange it seems when for weeks before I had [palps.] by day & by night.

9 A.M. went to Norristown to see that all my insurance policies are right. Left all with John J. Corson save those of Mrs. Gartley's which I only hold as collaterals, and the Franklin policies, perpetual ones, on Main St. House, &c.

Afternoon I was with the men until 3 o'clock directing them in getting up a wire fence behind the house, so that the cow & horses can't come on to the front yard. After that, a short rest on the lounge and an hour with my minerals.

May 12: Saturday.

Up at 5 A.M. Washed and dressed before I called the others. At 20' of 8 A.M., took Jimmy with me in the carriage and went down through the Park to Clapier St., Germantown, to Richard Day and Frannie. It was an usual errand. When Frannie was here on Thursday, and while we were at dinner, or at desert [sic], the little 2 ½ year old Richard, her son, wanted some of the pie, Tomatoe [sic] pie, and his mother did not want him to have it., but I said, "Oh! he must have it, it wont hurt him at all"; so gave him a small piece and thought no more of it, but the next day when the pie came in again, I said to Tillie, the woman, the cook, "Frannie did not wish Richard to have pie." She replied "I do not wonder of it, little fellow only 2 ½ yrs. old." Even that did not affect me. I thought no more about it till Saturday morning about 3 o'clock at night, when it came into my mind, and at once I saw that I had spoken thoughtlessly in going against his mother's wishes and it seemed to me that there might be injury to so young a child, owed to pie-crust. Then, too, what Tillie said came to mind, and it flashed upon me that if the little fellow were to get sick even from another cause in a day or two, it might be attributed to the pie, and what agony it would bring to Frannie should he die. Then the advice given to him that it would not hurt him seemed to me a most unwarrantable interference with his mothers wishes to guard him against danger. By this time I had become half frantic, for fear it had produced a bad effect on the child, and I feared that even to leave the matter until day light might be too long. So I resolved that setting aside all other duties, I would after breakfast start for Clapier St. to know how the little chap is. When I reached there, I was delighted to meet him, bright and cheery as possible. I have not told any one about it, but I will be sparing of interference with other people's children.

We went as stated, arrived there at 9:10. Staid till 20' after eleven. Home at 12. O what a splendid ride through the miles of Park!

At 4 P.M. was at Spring Mill station, got Bertha and little James, 7 years old, to bring home. Had three attacks of palp. today, though not one for four precious days. It may be that it was owing not to taking any medicine this morning.

May 13: Sunday.

Up at 5. Beautiful morning. Slept well last night; had breakfast at seven. At 8, while writing, had palp. Had to take water. I forgot to take my med. before breakfast, possibly that neglect cost me the palp.

Tacie came this morning, also Thomas Adamson. Jay & Susan at 10 o'clock. These two went home before dinner. Thomas soon after dinner, Bertha & Tacie at 6 ½ P.M., after tea. I have kept up as well as I could. Will now go on the lounge a while.

May 14: Monday.

A rather disturbed night, though no palp. & slept pretty well. Up at 5 A.M. reading "Spencer's Aphorisms." It is now 7 o'clock and breakfast is ready.

Went to Norristown after breakfast. Took Mary along. Had the farmer & his son Jimmy to white wash the fence around Marshall Street lots, 25 in all. Arranged some matters with John J. Corson. Did some other needed things. Home before 1 P.M. Staid at home in afternoon, read, wrote and worked among my minerals. No palp. today, nor last night.

Coxey-folks in trouble in some places, and giving or making trouble wherever they are.

May 15: Tuesday.

6 A.M. Was up at 5 A.M. Now [am] dressed for going to the meeting of the Pa. State Medical Society in Phila. From managing poorly, forgetting my medicine until I had eaten dinner yesterday, and then taking the second dose as early as six o'clock P.M., did not do well. Had palp. at midnight and slept but little until time to rise. I fear, therefore, that I may be troubled with palp. at the meeting.

9 P.M. Have been at the State Medical Society meeting in Phila. at 12th and Walnut Sts. Dined at Bertha's. Had a good time and was home at 4:30 P.M.

May 16: Wednesday.

Slept finely last night. Left here for Phila. at 8; Spring Mill at 8:25 A.M. From the Reading Terminal walked to 12th & Walnut; was there 20 minutes before Society convened. Listened to all the speeches till eleven. Dr. Ulrich then informed me that my good friend Dr. E. H. Wood of Pittsburgh was lying ill at the La Fayette on Broad St. We went at once to see him. He is laboring under "aphasia." Knew me, but could not speak my name. I was grieved to see him. We left him & promised to return before 3 P.M. We went there but friends had had him removed to the Med. Chirurgical Hospital. I then went to see Mahlon Dickinson, Ed. Wistar & Howard Comfort & Dr. Wistar. Then back to the meeting.

Mr. Mahlon H. Dickinson was not in, but I had a pleasant time with his close friend Cadwalader Biddle and Judge Herman Yerkes of Bucks Co., Pa. Left for home in the 4:42 P.M. At 6 was at home eating supper. It is now seven, and I have written a postal to Frannie & one to Bertha.

May 17: Thursday.

Went to the meeting. Did not intend to go this morning when I rose, but felt so sad about my friend Dr. E. A. Wood that I concluded to go to the meeting and with Dr. Ulrich go to the Medico-Chirurgical Hospital to see him. So left Spring Mill at 8:26. Had gone but a few miles when palp. struck me. I took from the refrigerator two tumblers full, but it was not very cold & did no good. So I went on to the terminal at 12th & Market, then took 12th St. Car and went down to Catharine & two squares up Catharine for five cents; then a minute walk and I was in daughter Bertha's home, at 747 Broad St. Took the coldest ice-water there and as quick as a flash, palp. was gone. Then I went back to the meeting to look for Dr. Ulrich, but could not find him. So stepped into the cars again & went to Bertha's, went to bed a while, ate dinner, then went by way of Catharine St. to 16th & up 16th to Diamond St., about in all 21 squares for 5 cents. Went into 1624 to see Doctor Wolfe, then to 1614 to see Cousin Amos Corson's daughter, Mrs. Rebecca Carr; then to 1505 on 17th St. to see Theodore Search, Cousin

Nancy Corson Search's son. Then to Columbia Avenue. From Columbia Avenue to Spring Mill, then in the carriage to Conshohocken & home by ¼ of 6 P.M.

I omitted to say that on my way to Diamond St. I stopped at the Hospital to see Dr. Wood. The elevator was out of order and I had to go up the stairs to the fifth floor to see him. It was a hard walk but I made it slowly. Poor Wood. He was in a room alone, looking distressed. Every now & then he would place his hand on his left temple, as the place where the aphasia originated. But he could talk better than yesterday. He would open his mouth frequently as wide as possible and give an organized moan, & then say to me the pain was so bad in his head. They had not, either at the hotel nor yet in the Hospital, given him any medicine, he said. But Dr. Anders told me that Weir Mitchell had given the case to him now, and he would begin to treat him. He held on to my hand strongly when I was about to leave him. I told him I would come soon again. He wanted to know "when."

May 18: Friday.

9 P.M. Went to Norristown to see John J. about a request of the "Receivers of the Lombard Investment Co." has made of me. Did several things and was at home at noon.

Afternoon I remained at home and spent the time in various ways, beside writing letters to Traill Green & other friends. No palps. Sleep very well every night now.

May 19: Saturday.

Slept well. No palp. Am getting ready to take Mary and go to Laurel Hill to see the resting place of our dear, lost ones, and where I too must soon be laid.

9 P.M. Mary & self started for N. Laurel Hill at 8 A.M., were home by way of the Park, all the way from Falls of Schuylkill, at noon. Our lot looks beautiful. Nothing could be whiter and more beautiful than the marble on "Mother's" grave. Caroline's and Edward's too are beautiful and so unpretentious. So too, the unique dark, bronzed one on which are inscribed the names of Father & Mother Foulke, his brother George, Sister Susan and brother Jesse, and Sister Susan Jr.

It seemed sad enough that all of them whom I once knew when they were well and happy, were all gone from us, and some of them so young, Edward only about 30 and Caroline still younger. The reflection too, that a very short time could elapse before I should be also laid there, deepened the sadness.

How transient a thing an ordinary life time seems to me! All those whom I knew before I was thirty years of age, gone, not one remaining to cheer me except Isaac Roberts & wife and a few others. All the boys & girls who were with me at school, gone long ago.

In the afternoon I expected to start at 2 o'clock to see my sick friend Dr. E. A. Wood of whose case I have spoken on one or two previous pages. Before that time a heavy rain with vivid lightning & terrific thunder was upon us and cont'd. for about two hours. So, I did not go, but rested myself.

As Mary & self came up through Wissahickon Park, I got out and jerked up a four feet high young spruce. James & I planted it in the back lawn about 12 or more feet from the Horse-Chestnut which is a little South West from it. On my return from Frannie Day's a few days ago, Jimmy & myself jerked up two quite small ones and

planted them on the back lawn, not far from where this last one was planted. It is late to plant trees, as they are growing rapidly. We may lose them perhaps, but what matter. It is well to try to do what you wish.

Frannie Yocom, gd. daughter, came today. The rain has soaked the ground pretty well & the vegetation looks flourishing.

May 21: Monday.

Slept pretty well last night, but at 5 A.M. had an attack of palp., but as I was warm and comfortable in bed despite the Eastern storm raging without, I concluded to lie still. In about 15 minutes it ceased its palpitations. All night it had blown and rained. I knew it because I had been up every 1 ½ hours all night, and every time went into the bath room and heard the water running into the tank.

I began last evening to read "The Scarlet Letter," so as soon as I was dressed I began it again and kept closely to it until now it has just struck 8 o'clock.

9 P.M. Have read "The Scarlet Letter" today, a rainy day with strong east wind. What an imagination to originate such a story, and what a capacity to write it!! Also reading at intervals, Aphorisms, compiled from Herbert Spencer's writings by a Lady.

At the Medical State meeting a woman read an interesting paper on The Faith Cure, as related to Scientific Medicine, not exactly the title. It was quite an eloquent and logical paper, I suppose from the little that I heard. Though seated near to her I could not hear every word of it, owing to my dullness of hearing. She read it well with a good voice.

May 22: Tuesday.

Very rainy all day. The storm & wind for the last two days has been terrific all over the State, and we are today hearing of fearful disasters in the lumbar region of the Susquehanna and in the towns on its borders. Williamsport has suffered fearfully. All over the State the flood has been one greater than even known before. The wind was an easterly one and went on without abatement of either rain or wind for at least fifty hours. I kept myself housed. Our ice house was filled to the very top, 14 feet, with water, destroying our fine, cut ice.

May 23: Wednesday.

The rain seems to be nearly over. Early, 20' of 8 A.M., I was on my way to the great hospital for the insane at Norristown. Got there before Dr. Bennett, the woman physician was away from the breakfast table. But she soon came into the office, bringing along Dr. Mary [empty space] and Dr. Christiancy, a medical Missionary who is just from India, and we had a pleasant time. Grand-daughter Frannie Yocom was with me. I had gone to get from Dr. Bennett some reliable statistics in relation to the number of women physicians in hospitals for the Insane as physicians, so that I could send them with other information of my own to a Legislator in the House of Deputies of Va., to aid him in having a general law enacted that women physicians should have the entire medical care of the insane of the sex in that State. I got all that she could furnish on so short a notice. Home by 11 ½ A.M.

At 1 ½ P.M. took to train at Spring Mill for Phila. to see Dr. E. A. Wood, my sick friend. Arrived there, we went to Wannamaker's, where I bought an over-coat for \$12;

then went to the Medico-Chirurgical hospital where I saw many doctors in Dr. Wm. Pancoast's surgical clinic. Then went to see Dr. Wood. He has been quite violent at times since I saw him on Thursday last. Did not know me, was "wandering." It was painful to me to see him in such a condition, and I staid but a short time. He was in quite a pleasant room on the second floor, and an attendant with him all the time. Home by 5:30 P.M.

May 24: Thursday.

9 P.M. Slept well. Palp. once in the night and once today. Am very well, good appetite, &c. Again today we have showers, but the rivers so fearfully swollen have greatly subsided.

Very busy hunting up documents, my own writings and Dr. Bennett's & others to aid some Virginia reformers in their attempt to have laws enacted to place insane females under the care of women physicians in the hospitals for the female insane of Virginia.

May 25: Friday.

Sent a great group of documents to Thomas D. Davis of Lynchburgh, Va. to aid him and other reformers. Got through that work by noon. After dinner, wearied with this work which I was engaged in from six o'clock A.M., I lay down on the lounge to take a brief rest. In half an hour I was told a man wanted to see me. I met at the door a bright, pleasant young man who introduced himself as Herbert Heywood of Boston, reporter for Chicago Tribune and some other Newspapers. [He] stated that some months ago, when in Los Angeles, California, he heard two very prominent gentlemen talking of my many medical papers, but especially of the treatment of Pneumonia by blood-letting. So fatal is the present treatment by arterial sedatives as Verat. viride^{ix} & Aconite, Digitalis, &c., &c., that people are more afraid of pneumonia than of any other disease, a disease which under blood-letting as treatment, is one of the most remediable of inflammatory disease. They requested him, should he get into this region, to call on me and hear what I had to say in relation to it. For more than two hours he interviewed me. I was not averse to it entirely, because of the many medical papers that I have published, the masses outside of the profession do not hear of them. Had my papers been published in the "Secular newspapers" as the clergy speak of our daily papers, they would have had the effect to stop in a great degree the remedies. I will not call them remedies, the injurious modes of treatment now used. I dislike only the seeming participatory that we have in a reporter's description of such interviews.

May 26: Saturday.

Rose at 5:10 prepared in my mind to go with Frannie to Washington, to spend a short time with son Joseph. Slept pretty well and, save a weak rheumatic feeling in my left arm with some pain in it, am pretty well.

May 28: Monday.

Am at home from Washington, now at 6 ½ P.M. Started from Washington at 12:14, did not reach Broad and Market, the Pa. R. R. Depot, until 4:52. Left for home from there at 5:10. Swept along nicely until we reached Bala. Then the conductor rec'd. a telegram that there was a "wash out" at Spring Mill and we were kept at Bala

nearly a whole hour. It rained almost constantly all the time of our trip from Washington to Phila., and when we left the depot at the latter place, it rained torrents until we reached Manayunk. The delay was caused by dirt & stones washed on the road from the banks of the sides of the road.

At a short time after noon, at Norristown and the country around it, or rather in the region surrounding Conshohocken, there was a down fall of rain that was simply terrific. Such a flood has never been known in this region, not even after long continuous rains, or in great "Ice Freshets." This was just a local "cloud-burst" as called by some, the centre of the cyclone. After reading of the devastation, I place [it] between Spring Mill and Bryn Mawr. Every bridge but one on Mill Creek was swept away as though they were a child's play things. I will put the "Press" account of it in the fore part of the book. Palpitation. And of course a pause..... Seven hours have passed since I stopped to take off the attack of palpitation,

I have been very busy at various matters. What a condition our country is in. With the Democrats trying to abolish the Tarif [sic] which for many years has made us so prosperous, and the miners "strikes" and the "Coxey Army" with his thousands of tramps, disturb the Country and derange its industries as I have never known them to be disturbed before.

May 30: Wednesday.

Decoration Day. I have skipped Tuesday because nothing of much interest occurred. I rec'd. my copy of the "Eminent Surgeons & Physicians" of the United States, which altogether has cost me sixteen dollars. A dear book but as it preserves in permanent form a history of my labors, and the rewards of those labors, I will try to bear it.

My lots on Elm St. have suffered damage in the curbing and paving. Today, Wednesday, I spent much of the forenoon in Conshohocken, directing the men how to repair the damage done to the curbing and paving of the Elm St. lots. Staid at home with Mary after noon.

Post offices closed. Banks & Schools closed, save only the schools of Friends. Letters of thanks from Sec'y. of Historical Society of Pennsylvania and Sec. of College of Physicians, for my "Measles and treatment of them with cold water," sent for their libraries. Also one from Mr. Thomas D. Davis of Lynchburg, that name is badly divided, for papers sent to him to aid the friends of women physicians in their effort to have women doctors for the women insane, in our hospitals.

May 31: Thursday.

Rain, rain, rain. No palp. last night, none today (writing at 5 P.M.). At home till noon, then went to James Hooven's funeral. A great many people there. When I came out of his house at 3 P.M. (though it had been clearing up since nine o'clock) it began to rain again & was with us until we reached home. Stopped and got 25 copies of my recently prepared re-prints of my pamphlets on Women Physicians and had 200 expressed to Dr. Marshall at Woman's Medical College.

9 P.M. I have the reprints and am pleased with them.

June 1: Friday.

Went to Norristown at 9 A.M. to see John J. Corson about my Lombard investment money. Paid the Herald Editor \$45 for the 300 pamphlets about the Recognition of Women Physicians & women physicians for the insane. Have already had very complimentary letters from those to whom I have sent copies. Had Mary with me. Had a palp. while on the lounge at 1 ½ P.M. Took the ice-water, then as it went off, I started to Consho. to look after the men. It was needful to go as they were not managing quite as I wished to have things done. Home by 5 ½. Supper at six. Have done the writing and reading of the day as usual.

June 2: Saturday.

Up at 5 A.M. Washed and dressed myself and come down stairs to unlock the door so that Jimmy could come in and do what was needful. Called Mary Cunningham at 5:40. Had breakfast at 7 A.M. Was off to Norristown at 8. Did business with John, bought 105 pounds of fence wire, took it to Spring Mill to the men to put it up as a fence around Elm St. lot. Home by 11 ½ A.M. Since dinner staid at home, read, wrote, looked over the minerals and wrote a few letters.

It is now nearly bed-time. No palp. last night, only once today, then took ice-water without delay and it was arrested in a moment.

Nothing of much consequence in the Newspapers of today.

June 3: Sunday.

Rose at 5. It seemed rather early for first day morning. But after leisurely washing and dressing myself, I came down stairs and read "Friends Intelligencer and Journal" until after six when I called our help up. No palp. last night and this is a lovely morning.

I went to Friends Meeting at 10 A.M. Had a good deal of disposition to fall asleep, an unusual thing for me. A sermon by Joel Lare [Lair] of the old kind, and we "broke up" to shake hands with the friends present, a pleasure that takes me to Meeting. On my return home, found Jawood Lukens and wife, dau. Susan, here and soon Dr. E. M. Corson and wife called, thus we had another pleasant time with friends. I mean our friends, not Friends as members of Meeting. Friends are making efforts to keep their Society alive, and I feel that I ought to go to the Meeting, as I do, not want to see it dwindle away, and as I swell the number of attendants by one, it may count for something in the eyes of those who think the numbers in attendance show its value. Home the remainder of the day.

June 4: Monday.

6 A.M. Slept pretty well last night. A beautiful morning. Up at 5, down at 5:20. Yesterday afternoon I enveloped my papers, the contest about women physicians, to procure their recognition, and efforts by me to have medical women for the female insane, to several medical and non-medical friends.

Evening. During the afternoon Helen Hovenden, my niece, came from Washington and soon after, daughter Susan and Dr. Anna Lukens. Dr. Lukens was a student with me many years ago. We had a couple of hours of pleasant social intercourse, and I consulted Dr. Lukens about Mary. She examined her limbs and

advised a treatment of abstinence from potatoes and all starchy foods, sugar, bread, &c., but to take eggs, fish, meat, vegetables as onions, cabbage, &c. Thinks medicine useless.

The hail stones that fell in a shower this afternoon were the largest I have ever seen, bigger than a common marble, some of them.

June 5: Tuesday.

Up at 5:15. Called Mary Cunningham at 5:45. No palp. yesterday or last night. Rain from 10 last night, off and on, all night and still at it in a mild way.

9 P.M. Have been very busy all day.

June 6: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Up at 4:50, dressed slowly, came down and lit the small coal-oil stove, so as to have the dampness taken off from the room before Mary shall get up. It rained in the night, rains this morning. In 17 days we have had but two or three in which there was no rain, and of them only one. I can say with great truth that "I never did see so continuous rain & wet weather as during this time." It has rained all this day, as well as during last night. But this P.M. I went to Norristown, though it rained strongly all the time. Spent some hours, too, in writing out what I have learned about the early meetings of Friends at Plymouth, and the time when the Meeting House was built, for Joseph Fornance of the Historical Society of our County.

June 7: Thursday.

Up at 10' of five. Splendid morning. Bright and sparkling every where in the lawn now. What a delightful change since last evening at bed-time, and when is bed-time? At 9 o'clock for our small family. That makes eight hours for me and a half for the rest. Every blade of grass seems studded with diamonds, sending out flashes of light. I will now read here and there from the various chapters. "Aphorisms" from the writings of Herbert Spencer. Many of them almost puzzle me to comprehend his meaning, but in the main, they are truths put in the most brief and attractive way.

9 P.M. Have been busy all day with various things. Have been at Consho., having the lots & Joseph's house fixed. Read a good deal in intervals between jobs. The usual announcements of the riots by strikers in the Bituminous Coal regions. They were fearful yesterday at [empty space] below Pittsburgh and, too, in other places. Coxey's Army has dwindled away, are of no account now, but were the cause of the strikers making their attacks in such large numbers as they now do everywhere.

June 8: Friday.

Up at 5:10. Slept well, but had palp. at 3 o'clock. Thought I would bear it a while to see if it would not leave. As it did not in half an hour, I took the ice-water, when it at once passed off. Again we have a fine morning, and yet it is likely that as yesterday, it will rain after dinner. After noon I should say, as dinner now in cities, towns and among rich gentle-folks even in the country, comes at 6 o'clock P.M.

June 9: Saturday.

Slept well. Up at 5 A.M. Had a ride to Hannah Stouts, and back by the way of the Creamery. Palp. while riding. Took ice-water as soon as I could get it. It acted

properly at once.

The hail storm of three days ago was a most destructive one to many farmers half a mile to 2 miles above us. Yet, even here it was the fall of largest hail stones I have ever seen. Many of them were larger than the largest marbles which boys play with. At Stout's today, Charles told me that there was along side of his barn a body of them more than a foot in depth, that had rolled from the barn roof. I saw numerous fields of grain which are completely destroyed by the hail. At Stout's they were large as hulled Walnuts.

June 10: Sunday.

7 o'clock. At midnight I was awakened by a pain in my right hip, a sciatica in the very spot where I had it and from which I suffered so greatly several years ago. I could not stay in bed, so got up and found I was no easier than when in bed. So lay down again after half an hour of suffering. Had been in bed but a few minutes when I felt my heart jerking me throughout the whole body. Had palp. Then got up to get the water but before I reached the pitcher, it went off. Then I laid me down again under a double amount of bed-clothes and soon was in a "muck of sweat" as was one of Vicar of Wakefields' daughters. Could not stand it this way, as the pain still cont'd. Got a light. Finally after 3 o'clock I took $\frac{1}{4}$ grain of sulph. morph., wrapped myself up warmly and lay on the lounge for half an hour. In half an hour went to bed and as the medicine acted, was enabled to stay there pretty comfortably until 7 o'clock, when I was told "breakfast is ready." I feared to move but tried it and though I still have a good deal of pain, I came down & have just had some breakfast. I am anxious to be washed well and dressed before Bertha & Frannie arrive at 11 o'clock, so will now make the effort.

9 o'clock. I am now dressed and feeling pretty well; have still some pain in the nerve and feel the effect of the morph. quite sensibly. Began to read Friends Intelligencer and Journal and kept at it, my pain gradually decreasing until 10 A.M., soon after which Jay and Susan came, and then I went to Friends Meeting with Jay. We were pretty late and Joel began directly to go over his oft-recited sermon and soon after he sat down, "meeting broke." Until Joel began, there was the stillness of death. Not a single person coughed or moved a foot. On reaching home I found Bertha and her son James there. Frannie Day had been detained at home by a visit from Mrs. Day, her mother-in-law. This day we can have the windows and doors open, and it is not too cool, just pleasant. How strange it seems that the pain has entirely passed away.

9 P.M. Am still free from pain. Bertha went home with little James, a fine smart boy, and Mary and self now here alone.

Yesterday I rec'd. a pressing invitation to allow the Faculty of the Medico-Chirurgical College to appoint me one of the Censors of the College. I have just written to Prof. Goodell to ask him if as Vice President of the Alumni Association of the University of Pa. and a life member of the association there would be impropriety in accepting it. This is the second time they have asked me to allow it.

June 11: Monday.

9 P.M. Up early, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. Went to Norristown in the forenoon, to Conshohocken in the afternoon. Took Mary with me both times. Therm. just 90° today. Have felt tolerably well but weak, weary, with great disposition to lie on lounge.

June 12: Tuesday.

A suffering night. The neuralgia showed itself in the evening. I tossed and turned over the bed without being able to sleep till midnight. Then the pain had increased so greatly in my hip, and on a spot just above my knee, that I took $\frac{1}{4}$ sulph. morph., expecting that it would as it did on first-day relieve me, but it did not. I worried on waiting for the relief until two o'clock. Then, as I was suffering greatly, I took another quarter of a grain, but with no relief. Got up at 5 and dressed & came down stairs. The movements of my body seemed useful. I am now at 8 A.M. easier than at any time since I went to bed last night.

This is the wedding-day (Isaac Roberts and Ruth Thomas) and I am very desirous to go with Jawood and my daughter Susan.

I had a long and interesting letter from Joseph last evening. He is now at West Point, Chairman or as they say, "President" of the Army Examining Board. There he met Dr. W. W. Keen who, he says, asked him the question put to him by every stranger when introduced, "are you related to Dr. Hiram Corson." Two other physicians there put the same question. It seems strange, go where he may, almost every doctor whom he meets asks this question, and what is very satisfactory to him, all have kind words and praise for me. My numerous medical papers, nearly fifty on important, practical subjects, have done it.

It is now nearly eight o'clock A.M. and I am somewhat better. Possibly I may be able to go to the wedding. 9 A.M. Have been to the wedding.

June 13: Wednesday.

6 A.M. I went to Jawood Lukens yesterday at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ P.M. Then, we three and the coachman started for Joseph Thomas' where we arrived 15 minutes before 4 P.M., the time fixed for the wedding of Isaac Roberts and Ruth Thomas. There were more than 100 persons assembled there. The marriage was properly conducted according to the usage of the Society of Friends, after which an hour or more was spent in social intercourse and in being refreshed with strawberries, ice-cream cake, coffee and other tempting and agreeable refreshments. I reached home, after a stop for an hour at Jawood's for a cup of coffee, at 8 P.M.

Two women preached. I met many friends. Had not any neuralgia during the time I was away.

9 P.M. Frannie came from Sp. Mill with me at 10:42. Have learned by letter from Dr. Anders that Dr. E. A. Wood of Pittsburgh, a long time my warm-hearted friend, died in Pennsylvania Hospital, sent there from Medico-Chirurgical Hospital about a week ago. He had become very insane from the attack of aphasia of which I wrote two weeks since. Poor fellow! He would have died at home, most likely, had he not wished to have Dr. Ulrich elected President of the State Medical Society. He came on to see how we should carry out his promotion. But before I saw him on the first day of the State meeting, he had the attack of aphasia at the Lafayette Hotel on Broad St. where I saw him at eleven o'clock next day, and again at 3 P.M. and at the Medico-Chirurgical Hospital on next day. On this last day, he did not know me.

Susan Lukens, my daughter came at 2 P.M. She and Frannie Day staid till 4 P.M., then went home.

I have consented to be a Censor of the Medico-Chirurgical College if elected by

them, as they are desirous to do.

June 14: Thursday.

9 P.M. Went to Norristown in the forenoon and brot Anna Cresson home with me to be a companion for Mary for a few days. Mary did not want to have her brought, but now seems to be pleased to have her here. I think if she will be content to stay, it will be a great comfort to Mary. Staid at home all the rest of the day. Follen's widow came in the afternoon. She staid but half hour or there abouts. Had two spells of palp. today.

June 15: Friday.

6 A.M. Did not rise till six. I had darkened both windows and as the room was dark, did not waken. I had not been very well and had to be up a while at 4 A.M.

9 P.M. At home in the forenoon, at Conshohocken about 11 A.M. Felt poorly, rather stupid and weary all day. Palp. tree times, but it went off every time without taking ice-water. Spent some hours with my minerals getting them ready to present to schools or colleges.

June 16: Saturday.

Slept well last night. Am taking about $3/4^{\text{th}}$ of one quarter of a grain of morph. in 24 hours.

9 P.M. Busy all day, Norristown, Conshohocken, &c. Joseph's wife & Bertha Yocom I brot from Spring Mill & Consho. Took Anna Cresson home, as she seemed desirous to go then. I had hoped that she would have been willing to stay and take the place of Mary Cunningham, with Mary. But no! There the whole family are without a dollar to get bread with, and yet this girl, without a dollar, for whom I have paid \$70 for tuition at the Schissler College this season, can't do any thing for me. Palps.

June 17: Sunday.

Up at 5 $1/2$. Called Ada, Bertie, Mary up at 6, had breakfast at 7. At 7 $1/2$ took Ada with me in the carriage to Norristown to see Dr. Ellwood killing some of the tuberculous cattle for myself & Dr. Mays today. Home at 10 o'clock, after a pleasant visit and ride. He will have the cows ready.

Afternoon. When we reached home several young people here ----- [illeg.], Jay, Susan & Bertie Day, and after dinner, the two sons of Frank & Hannah Bacon came here. I showed them my minerals. One of them, Frank, is in Robt. Shoemaker's drug store and is pretty well up on all the metals used in medicine.

Thermometer 95° at 1 $1/2$ P.M.

I felt after dinner that I must lie on the sofa, but after a brief time I got up and began at my minerals, and now at 5 P.M., really feel pretty bright and well. Have not taken a drop of the tonic & anodyne since bed-time last night 9 P.M.

9 P.M. Took the usual small dose at bed-time. Fear it will prove to be a foolish attempt to sleep well on this only $1/8$ gr. in a whole 24 hours.

June 18: Monday.

Up at 5 A.M. Could not sleep till midnight and very poorly after that, though I

got up and took two teaspoonsful more. It is hot and very sultry now, 6 A.M. 74° F.

Afternoon & 9 P.M. At one P.M. taking Jimmy with me, I went to the Norristown station of R. R. Road, met Dr. Thomas J. Mays, took him to the slaughter house of the S. E. Hospital for Insane people, and saw three large, fat cows examined after death. They were cows of the herd of more than a hundred which have tuberculosis. The revelations were astonishing, lungs, liver, kidneys, &c., filled with large and small tubercles. I feel that my desire for liver as food is gone.

We then went down to Dr. Bennett's office in the administration building and Dr. Mays, Dr. E. M. Corson & Dr. Richardson went through some of the wards. This disease (consumption) in cattle is a sad affair.

June 20: Wednesday.

I had palpitation twice during the night. Ice-water arrested it. A beautiful morning, not so hot as it has been for a few days..

I was up before five this morning, dressed slowly, came down at 5 ½ quietly for fear of awaking our visitors, Bertie Yocom, Ada & Edward.

How beautiful the lawn is seen from the window at my left hand!! The grass so deep green, the evergreens so luxuriant looking & the foliage so varied in colors, as the trees are so various in kind. Then, too, the forest trees interspersed and so fresh and vigorous looking. Oh, it is a delightful view! On the south side the lawn and orchard are as beautiful as the preceding one, and more extensive. The "breath of morning" is indeed a reality, so fresh, so lightly laden with moisture, so gently moving the limbs of the "evergreens," the "weeping willow," the "Ash" and the Lindens, the Horse Chestnuts scattered in such profusion over the acres of lawn.

9 P.M. Hot day. Have had our field behind the barn mowed for several years, looks now almost like a meadow.

Susan, Frannie, Bertie Yocom Jr., Ada and son Edward all here to dinner. Frannie, Ada & son went to Consho. with Susan at 4 P.M.

June 21: Thursday.

8 A.M. Forgot to take my dose of medicine at bed-time, as I was feeling well. Yet I slept pretty well, but have had palp. 3 times since I went to bed.

Beautiful morning. Had several pleasant letters yesterday, Dr. Rhoades, Prof. Parvin, Mr. Alfred Jones, Secy. Woman's Med. College, Pa. Think I will abridge my correspondence somewhat. I seem so busy all the time.

9 P.M. Joseph came soon after supper. The Hovendens and Ida also came this afternoon.

June 24: Sunday.

First-day morning. Some persons may say that it is not worth-while for me to be particular to write First-day and then use the heathen June. I should follow it with 6. Mo. 24th. Well, perhaps so, as being more Quaker like, but as I am only a Hicksy Quaker, bred in its forms but not a monster, I am privileged to use either way. I do not like the word Sunday, nor even Sabbath, and do like the name June, as indicating, or designating the sweetest month of all the months of the year. I will hold on to it.

Already, seven o'clock the sun is pouring his hot rays upon us, upon the Earth

hereabouts, and though they are somewhat annoying to lazy people, how the corn does luxuriate and spread its leaves under its vivifying influence.

We had so frequent and abundant rains prior to a week or so ago that the grain & corn were beaten down and kept back by them, but now for a whole week they have sprung into vigorous growth. I feel wondrously well this morning. I took a cold bath before bed-time, possibly that was useful to me. I slept well, yet had palp. once in the night. [Took] the ice-water and at once was myself again. Had a postal from Joseph last night informing me that Ada had sent one of the much desired small refrigerators to Consho. for me.

9 P.M. The day has been fearfully hot. Got home my small Refrigerator. It is a complete affair, small, and apparently efficient. I can now have ice-water night and day conveniently. Have placed it in the corner of the large dining room. Along-side of the place for the ice & cut off from it by only a zinc partition are places for butter, &c.

Thomas Yocom has been with us since eleven o'clock. He is getting to be a stout, broad-backed young man.

June 25: Monday.

Dull, cloudy morning, poor prospect for making hay. I feel very well this morning. No palp. last night. A horrid pen. 9 A.M.

Was at home most of the day, only took a small dose of my medicine at 2 P.M., same yesterday evening.

June 26: Tuesday.

9 A.M. Forgot to take my medicine except two teaspoonsful at 2 o'clock yesterday. So last night had palp. for two hours, having no ice-water to arrest it. Up at 5 A.M. Breakfast at 6 ½. Then took Bertie to Conshohocken to see "Aunt Susan." Staid but a few minutes, was back by a quarter after 7 o'clock so that the men could have the horses to haul hay. As I scarcely got any sleep last night, I have lain on the lounge until now.

9 P.M. Men have had both horses engaged in cutting grass and hauling hay, so I have staid at home and have engaged in reading, writing & arranging my minerals beside attending the funeral of my neighbor and friend Jesse Hall, with whom as storekeeper I have long dealt.

Having no horse, I walked under an Umbrella to the "Meeting House" just before one o'clock under a burning sun, with a temp of 96° F., my gd.daughter Bertha Yocom being with me. It was yet early, the time being one P.M. Several neighbors were there, and others coming. He had to be brought from Norristown and soon the procession of carriages filed in front of the house.

We assembled inside and for 15 or 20 minutes there was a death-like silence. Then a woman's voice was heard and after a very brief time a man uttered a few words, none of which could I hear. Then invitation was extended to those who "wished" to see the remains to go forward. Many did so, as well as myself. Standing in the presence of that mystery of mysteries, Death and Future, how vain seemed ordinary pursuits and the little jealousies and bickerings that engage our attention so often and so earnestly. Jesse's face gave evidence in its great pallor and wasted appearance, of slow insidious long cont'd. disease.

Quiet was restored and then poor, old Joel Lare [Lair] went over bits of his thousand sermons until all were worn, for it was childishness. That over, we went to the grave and soon all that was mortal of Jesse Hall was excluded from human view for ever & ever. An honest, good neighbor.

June 27: Wednesday.

How I came to use ice-water as an arrester of palpitation of my heart. How dumb I was. On November 20, 1887 is my first record of the use of Ice-Water and the instant arrest of the palpitation after having had it for eleven hours. After that, I had several attacks which went on for many hours and I have borne them without a thought of any positive agency of the ice-water in arresting it on Nov. 20th, 1887. But again in March 7th 1888, I again as it were by accident, used ice water and again was instantly well. In page 202, March 16th 1888, I wrote, "I have had 3 palps" (or rather 3 attacks), two of which were arrested by the ice-water at once while the 3rd one lasted ½ hour (probably was not able to get the water).

"From March 16 to July 12th had 10 attacks but did not take ice-water, not yet recognizing that it was more than an accident that it had stopped on drinking the water. On the 13th of July took it when attacked and the spell was broken at once. My eyes began to open. From that date, July 13th 1888, I resorted to it as an arrester, and when real cold, never has it disappointed me. I can tell the moment I take the first sip whether it will succeed. When real cold it never fails. When very cold and I take a little too much before I get my lips from the tumbler or tin cup, I prefer the latter, a great heat commences in the forefront of my brain and spreads rapidly over my forehead externally, and then down my whole body to my feet. There is for a brief space of time a feeling that vertigo is commencing and I avoid carrying the use of the water so far, and I can always do it if the water is right cold with about half a tumbler full gulped down rapidly. As age advanced upon me since I began the use of the water, the spells of palpitation have become more frequent, so frequent, indeed, as to occur during the last three years every day, and the last two years nearly always by day & night more than once. Now June 27/94, I can say that for the past year, the palps. have occurred on an average two or three times every 24 hours, and often several times a day and almost every night. Sometimes three or four spells in a single night. How I would have suffered had it not been for the prompt action of the ice-water, which I may say never fails me. But I do not now always need to take it, sometimes it will cease in 10 or 12 minutes if I go up stairs. But if it should not, the exertion of going up to get the water, causes it to increase its rapid action and before I reach the water it is pounding away ferociously, and my legs seem as though they could carry me no further. I take the water and instantly I am as well as before the attack. Should I be in the carriage on my way to or from Norristown or Conshohocken, it will dash on until I can reach my remedy, then it yields to the influence of this, the most delightful of all beverages. My life is, therefore, now in my 90th year enjoyable. When I go to bed knowing that the ice pitcher with water is in the entry just outside of the room, I go to sleep confident that if attacked, awakened by an attack, the remedy is at hand. Every night almost for months I have had one or more attacks, as I had last night. Sometimes I conclude to wait a quarter of an hour hoping I need not get up, but generally it fails and the water must be used. Should I get it when in the rail-road car, if ice-water is there and cold enough, I take it off at once. If not, bear it till I get to

the terminus. I have ridden long distances with it on me, years ago, over more than 100 miles, and it cont'd. after I reached home, the whole time it was with me being 26 hours. On another occasion I rode from Indianapolis to Springfield, Illinois, with it on me, and on many occasions shorter distances. This was before I knew the power of the ice-water.

June 28: Thursday.

9 P.M. A very fine, hot morning. As a farmer I rejoiced in the heat so essential to dry the grass into hay; the men got several loads into the barn today.

The horses being engaged and I not able to go for ice, the heavy rains having destroyed ours, our stock of ice gotten two days ago was gone before 4 P.M. I therefore had to wait until the men quit work in order to get a horse to take me to Conshohocken to get some ice, and even then I could only get a few cents worth.

On reaching home after dark, I found a doctor awaiting me. He had come, he said, "to consult me on a professional matter." Also said that he "was in the University Medical Class when I was invited by Dr. Pepper to speak to the class on any subject I deemed appropriate. He said he had come to get my opinion in relation to marriage between cousins, that he was engaged to a cousin. He said, "it is a general belief that children of such a marriage are likely to be weak of intellect." I told him that "I had long made observations in regard to it, in such families in my practice, and that I thought it far from being an established fact." He said, "I have read every thing on the subject accessible to me, and the facts are against the almost general belief." So we concluded it was safe to go ahead. We had, then, a long professional talk, of medicine & medical men, and before ten P.M. he left for Spring Mill where he was staying with Miss Lucella Righter in the old House of the "Phila. Vinyard Company."

His address: Dr. J. B. Hileman, Jr., Pa. R. R. Co., Broad & Market Sts., Phila.

More about the ice-water, which I only on the last page praised so highly I wrote the above and all on page 32 before one P.M. today. At 15 minutes after one I went in the carriage to the store for a bushel of salt to put on the hay, the fresh hay just being put in the mow. On reaching home, in a few minutes, I started for ice at Norristown. Went by the Post Office; got two letters, then on I went to Norristown, got the ice and came right back. When half way home, palp. struck me. The sun was in all its brightness, the road dusty, the heat intense and I in a hurry to reach home so that the men could have the horse to help in with the hay. I came to the lot where they were "making hay," and brot James home with me so that he could have the wagon to haul with. I was feeling pretty well worn down and soon as I could get some ice-water, I swallowed it rapidly, but at once I knew it would fail me; it was not cold enough. It had been put in a tin-cup, quite warm from the heat prevailing, and I was too impatient to wait long enough. In a few minutes I tried it again with like result. Then waited half hour and again took a drink, but even that I felt was not cold enough. Then I lay down in bed for half an hour, got up, took 1/8 gr. Morph. and two teaspoonsful of Tct. Lavender compd.^x Again went to bed and in half an hour the palp. ceased. I felt that I had risked my life in this trip and will try to be more careful in the future. It was then after six P.M. I record all this here to show that circumstances may be so combined as to disappoint us when we are most confident that we will succeed.

It amazes me that I was enabled to bear the many hours of palpitations so common with me for forty years. Bear it too, without knowing of any remedy to check

its action.

9 P.M. Nothing more to record, save that I am not feeling quite so well as before the attack of palpitation and will now go to bed.

June 29: Friday.

8 A.M. We have had breakfast and I am feeling pretty well. Slept tolerably well. Very foggy morning and as haymakers, we anxiously wait for developments.

11 A.M. Bertie has visitors, Miss Mason, Misses Clarke's children of Charles Heber, and Clara Clarke of Conshohocken. The hired men are getting the hay into the barn rapidly this fine hay weather.

9 P.M. We have gotten through the day pretty well, but how the newspapers are filled with suicides of distressed people, and murders the most atrocious. Riots & Strikes in the Coke regions of Pa. and other places, the mobs arresting the travel by Rail Road, &c.

"My heart is sick, my ear is pained with every day's report of wrong and outrage with which Earth is filled."

June 30: Saturday.

No palp. last night or yesterday. As the men did not need both horses in the forenoon, I went to Norristown to do a few matters of business. Home by noon. After noon staid at home. Had rec'd. letters from several friends, some needed answers. Spent some time with the minerals. One palp., one "spell" I should say.

A heavy shower with much sharp and near lightning & the ugliest, most frightful kind of thunder-bolts. O how good is the rain for the growing crops of potatoes & corn & garden vegetables!!

As I am situated, now time passes pleasantly. When weary of writing and reading, I enjoy my self greatly with my minerals.

James, hired man, dug well grown, good sized potatoes this day, and the roots are full of them, he says.

Murder of Carnot, President of France, by a young Italian. How terrible this is. I can't divine what is to become of this state of society which prevails every where now.

Anarchists banding together in every country to murder the rich, to take from them to give to the poor, so as to make all equally rich. In other words they would rob the meritorious who have lived frugally, labored earnestly, been the upholders of Law and Government, to give those who have not even tried to make livings for themselves & families, men who would not work, nor let others work. We hear much of providing for the "worthy poor." The worthy poor let alone, allowed by these anarchists to work, would support themselves well.

July 1: Sunday.

9 P.M. Have been at home all day. Read the Intelligencer, fixed up the accumulated letters, papers, medical circulars and Reform Societies papers, &c., &c., when at 10 ½ Jay & Susan came, and directly after, John J. Corson and Lawyer Joseph Fornance of Norristown came. The latter called to get me to allow him to embody in a small history of the Transactions of the Society a paper prepared by me some years ago, and read by Follen before the Society. Also to say to me that Rev'd. Dr. Beaver,

Presbyterian Minister, wished him to ask me to write a history of the doings of the abolitionists of our county, from the beginning of the strife, as he thinks I am the only one left who was an active participant in that struggle to help the slaves to freedom. I will try to do it, and as I have ever found that trying generally succeeds, something may come of it.

Reading, writing and a little spell, a recreation with the minerals occupied the afternoon.

July 2: Monday.

Finished the housing of hay. Had several letters. The newspapers this morning again filled with the usual outrages, murders, suicides, beating of wives, drowning of pleasure seekers, as well as numerous sermons of clergymen of Phila. who still go on believing, no not believing, but preaching, Hell Fire as a punishment to evil-doers. If not deceived, they are a band of false teachers doing much injury.

Took Bertie Yocom to the train, 7:45 at Consho. On my way home, on the third trial engaged a farmer to cut my wheat, with the "Reaper and Binder." What a useful invention. It starts into a grain field and every few feet, out of the side drops a tight, compact sheaf of wheat & on it goes, until acre after acre, from 5 to 10 or more in a day, are in sheaves. When I was young it was not unusual to see three or four "cradlers," or twenty "reapers," laboring all day at a crop that the machine could finish in one.

The remainder of the day I spent at home in the usual way.

July 3: Tuesday.

Brought Frannie Day from Sp. Mill at 10:42, was in Consho. on business and to get money from the Bank, on checks sent to me. It is useless to say "the weather is awfully hot." I am, now [at] 2 P.M., feeling quite well. Slept well last night and have had but two palp. spells for the past two days, and they were easily put away by the water. One I put off in the Conshohocken Bank at 10 o'clock. It had struck me while going there.

The reader may think I say too much about my palpitations. I do it, that if any one should like to study it, they can in my diaries of half a century get some conception of it, not spoken of in medical books.

July 4: Wednesday.

This Country or Nation has now been a Republic only 118 years, or since Independence was declared 118 years ago. How young the Country seems, so few years since Columbus discovered it. But though fresh & new to Columbus, it was then populated in almost every part, from Maine & Atlantic border to Van Couvers Land and the Pacific on the West.

Up at 5 A.M. thinking it was six o'clock, so called Tacie & Mary & Mary Cunningham an hour before the usual time for them. I slept pretty well on top of all the covers and feel pretty good now.

9 ½ P.M. The day has passed very quietly with us. Mary went to Helen's at 4 P.M. and has just returned, greatly satisfied. Tacie & self quite alone all the evening.

July 5: Thursday.

Have had no palp. for two days. Feel well. Slept finely last night. A beautiful morning.

9 P.M. Have done the chores today, I may say. Took Tacie to Sp. Mill on her way home and came back bringing "Tildy" who has been in Phila. to see her son Charley & the "Fourth of July." James needed my horse this P.M., so I had to remain at home. I engaged in selecting from old anti-slavery papers & Mss. what would aid me to prepare my paper, a history of what was done in this County for the Abolition of Slavery. While we were greatly interested in the cause, no Society was formed in this State until 1835 when the Phila. Society was formed and our Society two years afterward, in 1837. I shall become greatly interested in this work, I think. It will bring before me again the men and women who strove so earnestly, in the face of a brutal, vulgar opposition, to convince our people of the horrors of slavery and its dread portent of suffering to the people of the States in the near future.

Mary and myself went to Norristown at 8 ½ A.M. in the small, fall-top carriage, but we had a prospect of rain. We took with us a gum apron and umbrella, and Mary's "water proof." It began to rain just as we stopped at Pagel's, Borough Tax Collector. I paid it, \$75.68 after the 6 per cent was deducted. Then it was just "pouring." We made a bee-line for home, I holding the umbrella to keep off the rain. It kept on a fair deluge, but we reached home at 11 A.M. pretty dry and comfortable. Here & there I was somewhat wet, so I took a bath and changed every bit of my clothes for dry ones. Then was about to lie on the bed when I was called to dinner. After dinner I lay on the top of the bed for half an hour, then began to feel slight chilliness. So got down stairs, took a dose of my medicine and was covered three of four thicknesses deep with woolen blankets, coats, &c. [In] about half an hour Susan Lukens came in and at the same moment "Tildy" announced the arrival of "much company." The company proved to be Susan Lukens, formerly Susan Jones, a first Cousin of "Mother," her son-in-law Samuel Thompson & wife and a strange lady.

After they went away, I had two spells of palp. Both went off after I had waited about ten minutes for each to leave. Then at 6 P.M. came one that lasted me an hour. We had allowed the ice-water to be used.

July 7: Saturday.

Morning 6 o'clock. Slept well and am very well now. Finished a letter to Joseph and sent it. A knock at the door. A man comes in on my bidding. He is son of a man (he says) whose family I attended in Conshohocken many years ago. Wants money to take the Cars for self & wife from Spring Mill to Manayunk where they, self & wife, now live but have been at Phenixville [sic] in hope to get work, and have walked from there on their journey home. I scarcely believed him, but as his wife was sitting at the road side & tired, he said, I gave him 35 cts to get to Manayunk. If he has been false to me, the wrong-doing is with him. It is hard to be poor.

Have been at Consho. and at Norristown to do some small matters. Had palp. in Consho. but as I got ice-water at Susan's, it went off promptly.

In Norristown called on Robert Iredell 82 years of age, to see if his recollection of abolition times will enable him to aid me with facts and incidents for my paper to the

Historical Society of our County. Had an hour's talk with him. He can aid me if he will exert himself to do it.

July 8: Sunday.

7 P.M. At home all day. Read and wrote till 10 ½ A.M. when Jawood & Susan came. They staid till noon. Dinner, then rummaged in drawers & places for papers in relation to the abolition work, from 1837 to 1861. Also for papers in relation to the history of the settlement of Plymouth, now Plymouth Meeting. Busy, very busy till supper at 5 ½ P.M. Since then, reading the Higher Criticism by Friend Thomas Longshore, a remarkable book and in accord with my views.

A few minutes ago, while sitting in the Bay-window, palp. struck me. Went up stairs & took very, very cold ice water. As soon as I took it from my lips, the queer half vertigo-feeling was felt and then the heat passed regularly down through my body, to my very feet. Oh! how hot my whole belly seemed for a minute. That is a queer feeling. I know instantly that the palp. is over. But many, many times that the ice-water stops it, there is nothing of that feeling. It occurs only when the water is at its coldest.

July 9: Monday.

6 ½ A.M. Slept over my time somewhat. It was so cool last night that I had all my winter-bed-clothes on. Therm. now just 60° F.

O, it is a beautiful morning! The men will need the horses today to haul in the grain, so I must be at home, but I will have plenty to do with reading, writing and arranging my minerals for the college and the high school.

9 P.M. Have been engaged as I expected to be all day. Very cool & comfortable weather now. Therm. 59° at 6 ½ A.M. Slept last night under the winter bed-clothes. But we must remember to take into account that in winter time the bed-room is warmed from the stove below.

The strikers are still ferocious at Chicago, assemble by thousands, burn cars, &c. Yesterday, the military sent 3 rounds of bullets, each of 35 breech-loading rifles into them & used the Bayonets.

July 10: Tuesday.

The news from Chicago of the doings of the strikers was alarming, but the military subdued them, and now the U.S. troops are there. Quite a number of strikers were killed & wounded.

The Thermometer registered at 5:50 this morning 56° F. About 10 days ago it was above 70° at sunrise. Delightful sleeping now.

The men are getting the grain in nicely. I had it cut and bound by the "reaper and binder." What a wonderful advance beyond the mode of getting grain seventy years ago, when we used to cut it with the sickle! Twenty men in a single field sometimes and, though having an abundance of whiskey, all of them together could not cut and bind as much as one man does now with a single machine, and he is riding at ease on it.

4 ½ P.M. Frannie & little Richard 3 years old came today. Mr. Hovenden brot them from Sp. Mill and now 4 ½ has taken them and Helen to Mt. Airy on their way home.

The men have all the wheat in, save one load which they are after now.

The news from Chicago & other disturbed places is bad as before, save that the military proclamations of the President, and the proofs already shown by the military that they will "fire to kill," whenever the word is given, has had the effect to discourage the strikers from so great violence as before.

9 P.M. Have read Higher Criticism by Friend Longshore since Frannie went home before supper, a wonderful clear exposition of the absurdities we are asked by ministers & religionists to believe. I am disgusted with what is called "Orthodox Religion and the plan of Salvation."

July 11: Wednesday.

6 A.M. Pretty good sleep last night, but feel very weak and bowed. The old man shows strongly in my bent figure when I rise in the morning.

9 A.M. [P.M.] Have been very busy all day. At Consho. grain field measuring the no. of acres that the Reaper & Binder cut for me, also to see my growing crops there & at 5th Av. and to see Susan.

At one P.M. went to Norristown to get my coupon Bonds and get the Coupons to collect. Found them. The Interest not due till Oct. Had an hour at the County Society medical meeting, then a couple of hours talk about anti-slavery incidents with Mr. Boyd. Got ice & came home by 6:30.

July 12: Thursday.

Rested pretty well, though I only took two teaspoonsful of the solution yesterday morning and no more till supper time when I took three. Was awakened this morning at 5:20 with palp. upon me.

7 P.M. I have been weak, dull, sleepy, and wholly indisposed to do or go. Have had some comfort with my minerals and some pleasure in looking at the garden and truck-patch. Every thing there is so clean and so luxuriant, such rows of flourishing Cabbage plants, "planted out" a week or two ago, & the corn, yes everything in both lots in the most prosperous condition.

Daughter Susan was here an hour before dinner and we agreed to go to the City in the morning, if tomorrow should ever come to us, to get me a suit of thin clothes. It seems a useless thing for me, as I feel that I am in no condition and have no prospect to need them, so weak am I. But I must have them if I should leave home, and we are invited to Saml. Thompson's at Hatboro on 17th, the same day that the Historical Society will meet there.

Have had palp. 3 times today. Can't settle down, even to write on Anti Slavery work, feel too weak & stupid.

Have just rec'd. an invitation to the funeral of my first cousin Hannah White, a noble woman, daughter of my Uncle Joshua Corson who died some years ago in his 88th year.

July 13: Friday.

I spent a poor night. In other words, I had palp. and had little ice in the kettle when I needed it. So, after three heavy drinks of the not cold enough water, I lay still for an hour or more, then had some cold. That took it off at once, but I was uncomfortable

from the much I had drunk and awoke & up very often. I feel that I am scarcely able for a trip to the city today, but will probably go with Susan at 8 A.M. or thereabouts.

8 P.M. Susan and myself went from Conshohocken in the 9:15 Express. It was very hot with promise of greater heat. Went directly to Wannamaker's and got a suit of black serge. It had been \$12, but was reduced to \$7.50. The coat is a sack. I don't favor that cut, but sacks are cooler and have pockets outside, on both sides. I did not need a suit, I think. My others, several suits are not worn much, but are a little spotted, could be readily cleaned. So I concluded not to get a very costly suit. It was very hot and I felt weak and as though I could not stand up. From thence went to Farmers & Mechanics Bank to get Divvy of \$84, interest I should say, then back to Broad & Market Depot and in the 11:15 A.M. left for home, where I arrived at 12:15 by carriage from Jaywood's. Got a good deal of paper with envelopes to suit at Wannamaker's.

Have felt pretty well this afternoon. Had taken 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. before breakfast at 7 o'clock, and soon after had a palp. but took it off with the ice water, and then started for the city and fortunately did not have it while away.

July 14: Saturday.

Went to Conshohocken in forenoon, got my clothes, some money, rent from Esq. Smith. Had a good talk with my friend Hon. John Wood who is just able to get to his office for business after an apoplexy. Stopped with dau. Susan Lukens; home before noon. Afternoon to Norristown after a number of matters. No palp. today nor any last night. Wrote to Joseph & had one letter from him.

July 15: Sunday.

6 A.M. Had a very grateful, complimentary letter from the Editor of the "Troy (N.Y.) Times" in reference to my pneumonia papers yesterday, & other letters. Slept pretty well last night. Up at 5. Am almost ready to start to Doylestown to the funeral of my Cousin Hannah Kirk White. Uncle Joshua Corson's daughter. She was first married to a Mr. Kirk, hence the letter K. in her name. Miss Emily Corson, Elias H. Corson's daughter is to go with me, to start at 8 A.M. from her home.

9 P.M. We rode to Ambler, took the cars to Doylestown, fare 52 cts. each. Reached there soon after ten A.M. Met with several of Uncle Joshua's children and Uncle Amos' children, &c.

The funeral was quietly conducted. Cousin Hannah was plainly but beautifully dressed and as she lay there in that sleep that will never know an awaking, I saw in her the combined features of her dear, black eyed gentle mother and her strong, manly, jocular father.

She was a kind and excellent woman, and for the last few years I have had correspondence and interviews with her, in the case of Mrs. Selzer, her niece, whom she so kindly reared and who during the last few years has occasionally had brief spells of insanity, for which to have relief we had to place her under the care of Dr. Alice Bennett, in the great hospital which was organized under the law originated by me, to have a woman physician for the insane of the sex. The funeral cortege moved for the grave yard at 12 noon, and we took the cars for home at 12:37, arriving at our homes at 2 P.M. I did not seem very weary, but after a short nap I felt very, very weary and exhausted.

July 16: Monday.

Slept well last night, but Oh! how weary this morning. Have made up my mind not to go to Hatboro tomorrow, though earnestly invited to dine at Mr. Saml. Thompson's and desirous to attend the meeting of three Historical Societies.

9 P.M. Went to Consho. Saw Susan. Told her I fear to go to Hatboro tomorrow. She was sorry for that as if they go, she wanted me to be along. Then went to Norristown to do some business and was home by eleven o'clock, but O! how tired. It was warm, hot I may say, and the ride about eleven miles. It has convinced me more strongly that I would risk my life to go to Hatboro, have no opportunity to rest all the day for a single hour, and be in attending on the Society as well as with my friends the Thompsons, and then eleven miles ride for home, Mary along.

July 17: Tuesday.

10 P.M. Jaywood Lukens and Susan came this morning prepared to take me with themselves to Hatboro, but I declined to go, fearing the exertion of a whole day without the opportunity to rest would be too much for my weakened condition.

At 3:54 I met Charley Day (gd. son) at Sp. Mill. Then went to Conshohocken and paid tax, collected some rent, &c.

At 7 o'clock took Mary with me to Norristown to Tacie's to a suffrage meeting. In her front yard, there was a large collection of people, and three lady speakers from Phila. Meeting began at 8 P.M. We left at 9:30 or later for home. A beautiful evening, cool & moonlight.

Rec'd. letter from Prof. Hiram Corson, about an article in the "Troy Times", N. York State, on an interview of me by a Reporter from N. York, on the treatment of pneumonia by blood-letting, with portrait of me. Also rec'd. a dozen copies of the Times containing the interview.

July 18: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Nothing special today. Was at Consho., &c. Answered many letters. At Norristown in afternoon, &c. Have felt pretty well, though two spells of palp. Have just rec'd. four letters, one from Dr. R. E. Chase from Friends Asylum at Frankford, asking me to recommend to the Trustees a suitable woman physician.

July 19: Thursday.

Was up at 5:40 A.M. Before breakfast at 7 A.M., I had written to Dr. Alice Bennett, Dr. Clara Marshall to name a proper person for the woman's department of the Friends Asylum at Frankford, as physician for the female Insane; also to Mr. Tinsley of the Staunton Vindicator, Va.; also to Dr. Chase of the Asylum. Ten o'clock. Daughter Susan Lukens here. Sent for to see an insane neighbor for whom I successfully prescribed nearly 20 years ago. Went and advised her to have Dr. Leedom. Called on him and got him to attend to her. Daughter Susan is wonderfully interested now in the Revolutionary history of our Country, or rather in tracing out what really happened in our County during the Revolution.

July 20: Friday.

Reading, writing, riding around, &c., filled up the day.

July 21: Saturday.

9 P.M. Very closely engaged today writing Reminiscences of "Abolition Times" in our County. I found it very interesting work, and it emphasized in a strong way the fact that I am the only one left of all those who stood for the cause in Plymouth. Seems sad enough to me. I effected a good deal today. Wrote several pages and felt well while engaged in it.

The strikes which were destructive and threatening of worse things to come, have been almost subdued and several [of] the great leaders, Debs & others are in jail.

July 22: Sunday.

I ought to note here what for a few days I have forgotten. The Editor of the "Troy Times", N. York State, has sent to me 12 copies of the Times in which are an account of the interview of Mr. Drayton with me, and my portrait, or photograph rather. I will paste a copy in this book some where. It has produced a good deal of feeling among the people.

The Editor of the "Troy Times," who was formerly a student at Cornell under the teaching of Prof. Hiram Corson, my nephew, sent Hiram a copy of the paper containing the Interview and photo of myself. He has since written to me about it and said he had written to the Editor of the "Times" to send a copy to his son Dr. Eugene Corson of Savannah, Georgia. I have just directed a copy to my nephew Thomas Adamson, Ex-Consul General, &c., now at Cedartown, Georgia.

Wrote several pages, about 20 half pages of fools-cap of my reminiscences of the abolition struggle for thirty years in this County, today. Went in the carriage after supper to see John Lewis, son of Jim the Slave, to get certain dates; then to Isaac Roberts' to learn facts from him. Have just finished a letter to David Comfort to learn certain particulars about the capture of John & Jim, his brother, who were captured by their masters and then redeemed at a large price by Ezra Comfort & Peter Dager. John whom I went to see was son of Jim, who married a slave girl who ran away and lived for a time with us, until she married Jim. They were married April 5, 1838. This was two or more years after he had been caught by his master. Both John & Jim were caught one day within half a mile of our house.

Visit to Isaac Roberts & wife, or rather a "call."

July 23: Monday.

Have not been away today, but all day engaged in writing to the Editor of the "Staunton Vindicator", and some others and a good many pages on the abolition events. Was up at 5 A.M. and have not let up from my work at one thing and another until now. I am just going to supper at 6 o'clock, after which I will rest or read some light matters.

Had a pleasant visit or call from Dr. George Highley at 3 P.M., which was a pleasant and useful rest to me from my work. Nothing very new or interesting in the Daily Newspapers. I don't read the many sermons published in the Press every Monday morning, and as there is no news from Congress on that day of the week, I got no news of moment. The scrap posted here is from the "Troy Times", the paper in which the interview by Herbert Drayton was published. The published interview can be found in back part of this book. The Editors sent me a dozen copies of the whole issue. I say the

whole issue because the interview was on a sheet by itself, and the daily issue was with it also.

I have lost papers of Dr. Bennett & she has asked me for them. I have looked high and low for them.

Have written a letter to David Comfort, son of Ezra who bought John Lewis, a slave whom his master had come up & with constables and had seized him, what he knows about it, as some of the particulars have escaped from me.

July 24: Tuesday.

Up at 5 ½. At 6, began a thorough search in my desk for the papers of Dr. Alice Bennett. I took every paper and package, envelope and sheet out from their places, and lo! Just at 7 o'clock, found them all in good order. I was joyous over my "find."

Soon as breakfast was over, went to the hospital for the insane, taking them along. On my return to Norristown met an old man, Jonathan Thomas (85). When being asked about the capture of the Slaves, the Lewises, about 60 years ago, was enabled to give me a good account of it, a trifle more correct than mine, as his has been corroborated by David Comfort in a letter rec'd. by me at the P.O. as I came back from Norristown after I had talked with my friend Jonathan Thomas.

I got too from the P.O. an envelope that had in it all the papers that I had sent to friends of women physicians, and the Trustees of the Staunton Hospital for insane in Virginia, to enable them, as they have successfully done, to elect a female physician for that hospital to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation & marriage of the one who has been there three years. How fortunate I have been thus far today. Now I am ready to go forward with my paper for the Historical Society.

A letter to me from Mr. George D. Davis, one of the Trustees and cashier of the "Krise Banking Company," most gratefully acknowledges the value of the papers sent, in aiding to complete the work.

July 25: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Since morning I have had letters from David Comfort, son of Ezra, with whom Jim Lewis worked some years to pay for himself; another from Mrs. Morgan Wills, gd. dau. of Peter Dager whom John served; also I have had quite a long talk with Jonathan Thomas, 85 years of age, who remembered quite well what happened [to] the "Lewis." So, I will be able to give a pretty truthful history of the event.

Before supper Miss Belle Vansant was brought here by her nephew Charles Foulke. She will stay with us a day or two perhaps.

July 26: Thursday.

Wrote much today in preparing my paper on the work of our County abolitionists. More & more facts spring up in my awakened memory.

At five o'clock P.M. on Wednesday, Miss Belle Vansant, a teacher in the "George School" in Bucks Co., Pa., was announced. She is sister to Dr. Richard Foulke's wife & a most persevering and quite talented young lady. She early determined that she would have more education than could be had at country schools. She joined Friends, and having some funds of her own, started from the farm life to higher schools and higher and higher to college at Ann Arbor and now is a Botanist in the George

School & well versed in English, French, German and other studies. Biology is now attracting her attention.

This Thursday morning I took her & daughter Mary & Charley Day to Sp. Mill that Miss Vansant might take the cars for Phila.

She had come on to see my minerals, which they wish to have at the George School. It was a pleasant visit to me.

July 27: Friday.

Again at work on my paper at 6 A.M. Kept steadily at it, a couple of hours at a sitting, then rest an hour, then turn to something else.

One P.M. Therm. 95° F. Fearfully hot & sultry it seems in the house, here as I write. Have written a good deal today.

The Democrats in Senate & House at Washington are wonderfully anxious now to pass some kind of a "bill", so as not to let the McKinley bill continue in operation. It seemed a few days ago that neither the Senate, nor the House could recede from the positions they had taken, but their fears are disposing them to come to some agreement at whatever of sacrifice of opinions.

7 P.M. I have just had supper. The only break in my three hours of steady arrangement and writing of the History of the Corsons. There is so much, so many things thrown together, items as they were gathered from time to time during many years. The work of selecting them properly and in chronological order is not a little perplexing.

July 28: Saturday.

Therm. 98° F. several hours this day. I have steadily worked on all day in getting into proper order for publication the Genealogy of our family. There is so much of it which came from different sources and different times that it is hard to get what is really needed, without much repetition and without having too much to publish. From what I know about every branch of it now, I could sit down and make a very fair record so as to show where each one belongs. But a more extended account seems to be desirable. There are several persons of such distinction that they ought to be named. There are, too, several others, persons of good abilities, who have done so badly as not to entitle them even a record of their names, yet their children have done well and are entitled to respect.

It is now 5 P.M., and I am expecting visitors from Germantown, friends of Frannie Day, whom they will bring along. I think probably the great heat will cause them not to come.

They will not come.

July 29: Sunday.

Very, very hot. Did not ride today. Temp. 98° from noon till 3 P.M.

July 30: Monday.

I went at seven o'clock to Norristown, visited Dr. Whitcomb on or about Reprints of my Hydrophobia papers. Wm. E. Albertson wrote to me yesterday and asked that I send to his brother-in-law of Pittsburgh a copy of my Hydrophobia paper. Went after seeing Whitcomb to see Dr. E. M. Corson to get what he knows about Abolition Times.

Got from him that he had taken Jane Johnson, the liberated slave for whose liberation Passmore Williamson suffered a long and unjust imprisonment, in a carriage to Mahlon Linton's, a station of the underground rail road near Newtown, Bucks Co.

Then called on Mahelm McGlathery. He is not quite a year older than I am. He will be 91 in Nov., I ninety in October. From Isaac L. Shoemaker, who was then in Mr. M.'s office, I learned of a case that occurred in Hatboro many years ago. Then I went to John J. Corson's and met Alfred & Frank Schlater. Frank had a printed account of the capture of the slaves John & Jim Lewis, which he said he will bring to me tomorrow evening. So I have gained important information today. Home at 11 A.M.

9 P.M. Afternoon at 3 P.M. I took Charley Day with me, stopped with Daughter Susan a few minutes. Then went to Dr. McKinsey's in West Conshohocken. Staid nearly half hour with him. Then went to the carriage builder at Gulf, to see if I could get a low one, easy for Mary to get in. Again away to Henderson Supplee's at the South end of the "Gulph" as they have it inscribed on the great boulder erected by the "Association of the Sons of the Revolution." Took note of the inscriptions, then away be the Christian Church and Gulf school-house for home, From Conshohocken went to Isaac Roberts at Spring Mill to get a pamphlet, the Passmore Williamson trial. Arrived at home about 6 o'clock. For the last half hour I was pretty weak & anxious to reach home to rest.

July 31: Tuesday.

6 A.M. Temp. 70° F. Rose at 5 A.M. Had slept pretty well

Many letters every day now, but only one this morning, and that from Mrs. Sarah Tyson, wife of Samuel and daughter of the most distinguished Senator which, I think, Pennsylvania has ever had. And Mrs. Tyson is the worthy daughter too, of her mother who stood so bravely for the slave.

August 1: Wednesday.

Bertha Yocom (senior) came this morning and Carrie Cresson went home after dinner. The press of yesterday announced the death of a woman in the Park in which Joseph D. Smith, passing for years as a respectable and religious man, is placed in a most unenviable place, or position. Today's paper gives some particulars and an almost ludicrous explanation by him. He has a wife & children in Norristown, but on Monday night he did not come home. Why? Well just after dark, the carriage in which he was riding with a young woman dashed against another carriage on Valley Green part of the Park, and both were thrown out. She killed. He not much hurt. To the persons in the other carriage, he said he did not know the woman's name, indeed seemed disposed to deny that he had even been an occupant of the carriage in which she had been. He was locked up in the Manayunk Station House. Her name and residence have become known. He to explain says, he rode from his office in Phila. to the Park at the Centennial Grounds and then at a hotel met an "old chum" whose name he has forgotten. They had a few drinks when "old chum" introduced him to two ladies in the parlor. Then "old chum" proposed a ride in the Park and that Smith take one of the women in his carriage, and he go in the carriage in which the women came. And that the whole trouble came from old chum. Still persists that he does not remember his name, proposing the ride in the Park.

I am almost ashamed to write so much about the nasty theme, but I know Smith

well, and how proudly he has posed as a religious man, and how we can and are misled by such wolves in sheep's clothing.

August 2: Thursday.

6 A.M. Strange it seems to me that for nearly 3 weeks I have had almost no attacks of palpitation and for a whole week not a single spell. I am still sensible of being unusually weak. Though I have a good appetite and eat well, have no dyspepsia, no pain any where, nothing the matter with the vital organs, save their age and the effect of the wear and tear of a ceaseless action for nearly ninety years.

I feel pretty well assured that my freedom from palpitations is due to the $\frac{3}{4}$ th of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a grain of sulphate morpheum and the six grains of Iron & six grains of Quinine which I take every 24 hours in three doses, thus $\frac{1}{16}$ th of morph, one teaspoonful of an Elixir of Iron 2 grs., Quinine 2 grs., sulph. Strychnia $\frac{1}{60}$ of a grain at each meal.

Though feeling as I have said very weak, I pursue my writing, reading and attending to business continuously and to an observer am a rather healthy and somewhat vigorous man. So they all say to me at least, but I feel nearly worn out.

9 P.M. Letter from Wm. Still about Jane Johnson and her boys who escaped from their master by his bringing them into Pa.

Letter from Receivers of Reading R. Road that they will pay interest on Schuylkill Navigation Bonds, that had been withheld for 5 or 6 years.

August 3: Friday.

Was at the desk and read the Press till noon. Went to Norristown with Bertha after dinner. Drew money out of the Bank and did other things. Then went to Conshohocken, paid Joseph's Tax, &c., &c.

Met some old colored men, formerly slaves, who gave me much information about their escapes in 1845.

I have gotten William Still's Underground Rail Road Book, what an interesting book!! How fearful a thing was American Slavery!!

August 4: Saturday.

Went to Norristown pretty early to get my spectacles repaired. Did a number of things there. Home by noon.

Went to Mahlon Ambler's funeral at Plymouth Meeting at one P.M. Had known him for 80 years, when we were at Plymouth School together. Saw quite a number of friends there. Many that came to shake hands with me I could not at first recognize. Still it was pleasant to meet them for they seemed so pleased to meet me.

August 5: Sunday.

A great change in the temperature this morning. At 7 o'clock it was only 65°. There were two mornings about a week ago, when it was 80° at that time of day.

I had palpitation last evening and again this morning at 4 o'clock. Had to take ice-water. Grandson Thomas Yocom [is] here this morning.

Afternoon & evening. Not much of note occurred. I wrote and read some but was not feeling well.

August 6: Monday.

Started to go to Phila. in an early train, but on getting to Susan's, did not feel like it, so came back and remained at home all day.

August 7: Tuesday.

Threshing our grain. A beautiful, pleasant day. When I rose this morning, I felt that I could not go on doing any more in the abolition business, or any thing else. I had, though, slept very well. But soon as I got down stairs, took my seat at the desk and began to write. After breakfast took the chair at the desk again and began to look over what I had written, and then began to correct a little here and enlarge a little there, then to write new matter and strange to say, kept at it till dinner time (noon). After dinner went to Chestnut Hill to collect interest from Mrs. Langan. Got it, and as soon as at home, renewed my work at the desk and continued it till supper-time 6 ½ P.M. All day I was busy & comfortable.

August 8: Wednesday.

At home all day, reading Col. Theodore Bean's History of Montgomery County, especially that part of it under the head of the Under Ground Rail Road. What a fine, interesting account it is, particularly of the part taken in it by the Norristown abolitionists, Brother William, Isaac Roberts, Larry Corson, Jacob Paxson, Jacob Bodey and others. It scarcely reaches down to the doings of brother George and others of us who did the work in this County, in leading the people to favor abolition instead of denouncing it. I am waiting for replies from some to whom I have written concerning their knowledge from tradition of the doings in those days in anti slavery matters.

The men have finished the threshing our oats and wheat, 55 Bus. of the former and 95 bushels of the latter. I knew when wheat brought \$2.40 per bushel It is now 53 cents, yet costs as much per bushel to have it threshed as it did when it was so high.

| | |
|---|---------------|
| I have paid for harvesting it with the reaper----- | \$7.37; |
| For threshing 95 Bus. at 7 cts. per bush ----- | \$6.65; |
| For boy to attend to the ½ Bus.----- | \$1.25; |
| For boy to cut bands----- | \$1.50; |
| For 3 days work by Geo. Baker ----- | \$3.00; |
| Cost of grain to sow it last Fall, Four acres, 2 Bus. to Acre = 8 Bus., then it was 67 cts per bus.----- | \$5.36; |
| Have covered the land with manure last fall, besides Putting ½ ton fertilizer from B. Newport on it ---- | <u>\$7.00</u> |
| | \$32.13 |

95 Bus. at 53 cts., as now quoted, would bring to me \$50.35. So my profit for the field of grain would be \$18.22 (counting nothing for the labor of many, of men and horses, and nothing for the cost of manure, \$18.22, and the straw, not counting a cent for the labor of my men and horses, or for the manure hauled on to it.

August 9: Thursday.

I went to bed Wednesday evening feeling very well at 9 o'clock. At 10:30 awoke feeling a slight intimation that I was about to be purged, went up to the big commode and was moved. Had scarcely gotten down stairs when I felt nausea and directly vomited. I

was very sick, but soon went to sleep, to awaken in two hours or so & vomit, & so it went all night. This morning I was indisposed to get up. Every time that I vomited last night, I took two or three teaspoonsful of paregoric, because of light griping pains. The paregoric finally relieved me from the pains and the disposition to have the bowels moved, disposition to diarrhea. Ellwood came and gave me some of the little dandy pills of the present day, or times. All day I was pretty miserable, but now as I have taken the pills all day, and each one has the 16th of a grain of morph. in it, I feel pretty comfortable and am down stairs. Have spent an hour or so with Jay & Susan. Thos. Hovenden & George Corson have just left after a call of a few minutes. Thomas Yocom will stay all night. Will now [go] to bed.

August 10: Friday.

Slept pretty well, but feel as if I had better lie in bed, so weak am I. I don't feel right in the stomach either. But as the disposition to vomit has left me, I will bear with the other annoyances as well as possible.

4 P.M. I seem about as well as before I began to vomit. Yesterday morning I did not expect ever to be well as I now am.

This morning at seven o'clock a man came in haste to get me to come to Anthony Harner, a store keeper near by, who was found unconscious. Now at 4 P.M. hear that he is dead. Of course, I did not go, Dr. Leedom did.

8 P.M. It is almost bed time and I have had no vomiting now for more than 24 hours and feel about like I did before the vomiting took place, but Oh! how weak. Most comfortable when at the desk I am at my correspondence, or some original paper.

August 11: Saturday.

7 A.M. I got up yesterday morning feeling pretty well, so at once, before breakfast, sat at the desk to write, took a very little breakfast, had no appetite in fact. Then went again to the desk and kept on writing replies to correspondents and other matters till noon nearly. Just before noon I began to feel slight sense of chilliness, the result I now think of having but thin clothes on and the weather is quite cool. I was at it too long, could eat scarcely a bit of dinner. Soon after dinner I took my med. and a small pill about equal to my dose in the amt. of morph., but also having other medicine in it. All the afternoon I felt feverish and greatly dreaded that I would have a restless feverish night. Could take but little supper. At bed time, I took one of Ellwood's pills and 1/12 of a gr. morph. besides. Soon afterwards I began to feel the calming effect of the anodyne, soon too, the febrile condition disappeared and I slept short naps and was pretty comfortable all night. Yesterday I feared that I had set in for a spell of fever. How happily the fever vanished!

August 12: Sunday.

7 A.M. I am as well as usual this morning, but feel no appetite for breakfast, which is now ready. Feel about as well as a week ago, only weaker, if this is possible. I was very weak then. Will try to be careful today, not read so much as I did yesterday.

9 P.M. I have written some letters and nothing more. Have had a supper of oatmeal and toast bread and have since supper avoided reading any on the Historical subjects, only a little poetry. [Had] a severe palp. today.

August 13: Monday.

Last night's rest surprises me. I was in bed just about 9 o'clock. Soon asleep, awaked at 12:30. This astonished me. Generally I have been awake and up three times before or by midnight. Then I went to sleep again directly and awoke at 4:20. I was amazed. Then soon asleep again and awoke at 20 minutes before six.

Death of Wm. H. Holstein, a good, true friend to me when I was lecturing on Temperance for some years, and always a most agreeable man to me. He will be buried tomorrow and I hope to be able to go to the funeral. I have not been from home today. Susan Lukens and my gd. niece Sallie Jones and George Corson and wife came to see me, also Ida Corson & Thomas Hovenden and daughter Martha. Have worked some what at my paper today.

August 14: Tuesday.

6 ½ A.M., Slept not so well as the night before but yet tolerably well, up 4 times.

6 P.M. Went to Norristown at one P.M. to see persons for information concerning abolition times, go to Bank to make deposit, see about getting my old carriage repaired, get ice, see John J. Corson, &c., &c. Home very weary at 5 P.M. Had not taken my med. before going as I used to do at noon. So, it was not strange that I was weary. I have taken it since my return and have had supper, so feel pretty well.

Did not go to the funeral of my friend Wm. H. Holstein, because they published in the paper that he was averse to the custom of having the corpse exposed for the persons to look at the features

The encomiums being heaped upon him now are very many. The Church takes a leading part.

August 15: Wednesday.

6 A.M. Up at 5:20. Had gone to bed at 8:30 last evening. Slept pretty well after 12 midnight. Until then none but was comfortable. Three letters last evening.

7 P.M. At home all day, writing away at my paper, or rather trying to arrange the items coming to me daily in letters from different parts of the County, so as to have them come in the proper places. I have had to re-write a good deal as my informants give me new matter on parts on which I had already given my version of them.

August 16: Thursday.

Slept pretty well. Up at 6. Quite [a] cool morning, 65° at 7. Brought Bertie Day from Sp. Mill at 10:42, also her brother Charley. The latter has put up an Electric Bell for me, going from my bed-side to the room over the dining room where Mary sleeps and where it can be heard by her and by "Tildy," who is over the Kitchen. Charley is only [empty space] years old, but greatly interested with his father in electrical matters.

Hannah Richie & her sister Martha Styer, brother Alan's daughters with the latter's husband, Isaac Styer, came to see me. Ida Corson also came. So I did not do anything with my paper today.

In the afternoon I was trying to settle up Follen's unpaid taxes. Got a long letter from Isaac Roberts about abolition work of his father and mother.

August 17: Friday.

Up at 5:30. Therm. 60° F. at 6 A.M. seems very cool. Went to Consho. and paid all taxes due. Collected rents for Joseph & some for self. At home in the afternoon. Bertie Day copying the Constitution of the National Anti-Slavery Society gotten up in 1833, with all the signers added. Miss Mary R. Rutter loaned me a copy that, or rather one of the original copies on silk from which I copy mine. Hers is a beautiful thing.

August 18: Saturday.

7 A.M. Have just finished a long letter to Miss M. R. Rutter of Pottstown and the Breakfast is ready. Staid at home till one P.M. Then went to Norristown to draw some money, get ice, &c.

August 19: Sunday.

Steadily at work till Jay & Susan came at 10:30, as is their custom on First-days. After dinner we had during the afternoon many young people, John J. Corson, 3 daughters and son, Frank Bacon, Thomas Yocom and three young ladies from Conshohocken and two young men from the same place. Two of the young Ladies are students of medicine at the Woman's Medical College, Phila. and are from Malaga, Spain, now boarding with Mrs. Doctor Beaver in Conshohocken.

August 20: Monday.

6 ½ A.M. Fine cool morning, with the dampness from a light rain in the night,

9 P.M. I have kept pretty steadily at work today at my abolition paper. Bertie Day has copied quite a long article from an old newspaper about the arrest of the Lewis slaves, and I have hunted from my correspondence the items & facts proper to give, without taking much of the unnecessary parts.

This afternoon Bertie had a visitor, perhaps a beau, a pleasant intelligent, sandy complexioned man named Serrill, and today Bertie says she is 19 years old. I kept at my work till dark.

August 21: Tuesday.

6 ½ A.M. A bright, cool morning Thermometer 60° F.

9 P.M. All day at home. The man and boys at the potatoes. At 6 o'clock they came home with a wagon-load of most beautiful one[s], and these all from a lot which has been vacant for years, a lot 140 by 180 feet. I have a lot in Norristown, a larger one, and the man who rents the house on it let it lay idle, though I offered to do all the plowing needed to get it ready and afterward what would be needed to cultivate them. The load today will measure 40 or more bushels.

I have written six letters today to persons for information about abolitionists of their region, but alas! None of the actors are living & their children know but little of it.

August 22: Wednesday.

6 A.M., 52° F. Very cold this morning for the middle of August. Scarcely know how to direct affairs this morning. The Norristown man needs straw, Frannie expects to come to Spring Mill at 10:42, and I want to go to Norristown to see some folks.

9 P.M. After breakfast I began to read and then got my letters and some other matter, so became interested & did not know that the time for Frannie to reach Spring Mill was already come. Oh, how I did hurry then and let old gray almost fly to Sp. Mill, but just before getting there it came to me that I was wrong, that Frannie had named Thursday not today. So came back feeling quite simple.

Rex Jones had a sale of 20 horses. It was surprising to see fine traveling horses in the prime of life, 8 two years old sell for from 23 to 40.50 and only one at 70 Dollars. I felt that low as they seemed, I did not need one, and yet I am sometimes in want of one when the man needs both the old ones we have. Economy and the relief from care of keeping them said no. I staid a while at the sale, then went to Norristown to see some persons about their knowledge of abolition times.

August 23: Thursday.

7 A.M. Poor rest last night. Took less medicine & tonic than usual yesterday, and so had to rise every hour all night and once had palp.

9 P.M. By request, I, after going to the mail at 9 A.M., went to Barren Hill to see a young girl 15 years old, to advise in her case. This is a family which years ago, when first in Barren Hill & very poor, I gave money & potatoes too, and afterwards for some years, attended, but for all of which they have never returned one cent. Still, the girl is very smart, and I concluded to visit her & see if she really needed a doctor. I know full well how some of our greedy doctors make a case out of every one to whom they are called. This man and his wife are he a doctor, she the daughter of a doctor.

I gave advice but will not see her again. Then brought Frannie from Sp. Mill at 10:42. When I got home found Dr. Tom Corson, whose father & I were 2nd Cousins, and his 17 year old son here. They staid till 4 P.M. Susan came before that time and after 4 P.M. took Frannie Day, her sister, to Sp. Mill on her way home. Had palp. twice today and a poor rest last night.

August 24: Friday.

6 A.M. Therm. 64° F. Up at 5:40. Had a poor night because my mind began to run on the subject of my paper. Queer it is how we can let a single phrase take possession and we go on repeating it hundreds of times.

Daughter Susan came after noon of Yesterday.

August 25: Saturday.

Started at 9:30 A.M. to Ambler, called on David Ambler to see if he knows any thing of importance about the Abolition work. He did not. Then went to see my friend Job R. Mather. He is 83 years old and gave me material. Then called on Mrs. Heyward Drayton, née Coleman, of Lebanon, at her County House; then to see Dr. James Tyson close by the old Foulke Home; then home by 12:15, where I found my nephew Edward Wistar. Had dinner, talked with him till 3:15 P.M. Was by this time very weary, lay on the bed half an hour, then got up, took a bath and now at 5 P.M. am here writing. After writing a long letter to Joseph Thomas, M.D. of Quakertown from whom I had just rec'd. an eight page letter, and am now feeling pretty refreshed.

August 26: Sunday.

9 P.M. At home reading and writing until 10 A.M., then went to Friends Meeting. At death-like stillness for 45 minutes, then an old sermon by Joel Lare [Lair]. About 30 males and about the same number of females [were present].

Found Jay & Susan here when I got home. Dinner, then lay down in bed. Up at 2 P.M. From that time until 6 P.M. steadily at work at the desk. Four pretty long letters were written to persons who, I had been told, could give me useful information about abolition events of which they had heard their parents speak. Also wrote more of my paper and re-read and corrected as well as I could what I had previously written, so as to let Thomas Yocom have it to write with the type-writer. After that, supper and a rest on the piazza till 8:15, when I prepared for bed.

August 27: Monday.

6 ½ A.M. Slept pretty well, at least was comfortable and slept a good deal. Feel pretty well now, 7 A.M.

9 P.M. In the forenoon at Norristown looking after material for my paper on abolition work. Afternoon. Went to Samuel Tyson's in upper Merion to see him and his wife, the daughter of old Senator Jonathan Roberts, in reference to her mother's abolition efforts. A very satisfactory visit. I discovered that Samuel had been an attendant on our early anti-slavery meetings, and she gave me much information of her mother's doings in purchasing the freedom of a mother and her four children, two boys and two girls. She will, by my request, write an account of it and send it to me. Home by 6 P.M.

Have felt very well today and the two rides did not weary me much.

August 28: Tuesday.

At home all day. Got many letters from correspondents in reply to mine, in reference to Abolitionists in their regions. Completed a group or two. I have divided the County into sections & showed who were the active abolitionists in each section. I find scarcely one anti-slavery man in the Upper townships.

August 29: Wednesday.

Cleveland, the President, has allowed the Reform Tariff Bill to become a law without his signature. But he has given his reasons for so doing in a letter addressed to two Confederate Congressmen.

The democratic forces are greatly divided on the subject. Some stand by "Grover," but a large body of them are greatly opposed to his course. The News-papers are filled with the differing views of democrats. The Republicans take but little part in their quarrel, but are on the watch to get out material to use against the party at next election time.

I seem very well now, and hard at work from morning till night collecting facts and arranging them for my paper.

Mr. Chas. Serrill is here again to see Bertie Day. Knowing how highly he is regarded by her mother, it looks as though, to use a common phrase, "there is something in it," or in other words that it may amount to a wedding. He seems an intelligent young man, and has a good character.

It is now seven o'clock P.M., and the mail will soon be here. Perhaps some letters for me.

August 30: Thursday.

6 A.M. I went to bed feeling as well as usual at 8:30, after reading a very cordial letter from Dr. Traill Green & wife of Easton, Pa. Did not get asleep for an hour or thereabouts. Was awake at 11, again at 12:30. At 2 awoke with palp. on me. Waited nearly half an hour for it to leave. As it did not, I went for the water. There was not much ice but a good deal of water in my new ice preserver given to me by Dau. Susan Lukens. Took a drink, but as it was going down, I felt that it was not cold enough. So it proved, but as on some occasions taking much more of it had proved efficient, I took another big drink, but it was useless. Then went to bed and waited for almost an hour. Then tried the water again, but as there was almost no ice there at the time, it was inefficient. Again took to bed and after a few minutes, being on my left side, was pretty comfortable for half an hour or so. Then went down stairs and took the usual dose of Elixir and added 1/12 sulph. morph. as usual. Went to bed; did no good. Waited till 5 ½ A.M. (this morning) then rose, called Tildy and also Mary Cunningham to get me ice. Went back to bed and the palp. disappeared before the ice water was ready.

Last evening rec'd. from the Commission that built the Wernersville Asylum for the Chronic Insane an invitation to be present there Sep. 5th. I would like to go, probably will if pretty well.

9 P.M. Have just written a letter to Joseph. Charley is off to the P.O. with it. Will now be off to bed.

August 31: Friday.

Noon. Slept well last night. Been writing all the morning & reading should have said. Susan came before dinner, staid till 4 P.M. For nearly or quite a week the air seemed as though filled with smoke. Some people called it foggy weather. Today we have accounts of extensive fires in the Forests of the State. The destruction of timber is enormous, almost incredible. Whole towns burnt up. The heading in the Press today reads thus, "A Thousand Men Fight Forest Fires;" "Pennsylvania Towns wrapped in Flames and in an oppressive path of smoke;" "North Western Pine Tracts cleared of Magnificent Growths by the Advancing Flames. 84 Miles of Flames." "Many towns laid in Ruins;" "Disasters in Wisconsin & Destruction in Michigan;" "Puget Sound Towns Praying for Rain to end the Threatening Calamity."

Very busy today as usual. Have felt very well.

September 1: Saturday.

6 ½ A.M. Still wonderfully dry. Temp. moderately, 70°, pleasant. Slept very well last night. Little Charley Haigh [Haight], Tildy's son who is a pupil at Girard College, went back last evening to enter another year's work. He has been here several weeks and disliked to return. He says they do not give the boys enough to eat.

September 2: Sunday.

8 A.M. All the morning I have been reading the Quaker "Intelligencer" until a few minutes ago when palp. struck me. I came out, threw myself suddenly on my left

side on the lounge, hoping it would cease, as it has often done under the act, but it did not, so got up and was about to go up stairs for ice-water when the palp. left, and I sat down here to write.

9 P.M. At ten A.M. while I was writing, Robert R. Corson and wife Rebecca were announced. They had been brought up by Jawood & Susan. Had a pleasant time with them until 12 noon, when they returned to Conshohocken. After dinner I cont'd. my reading and writing with but little loss of time until 4 ½ P.M. when George Parvin, a young man whose father & mother's family I attended many years ago, came. He is a good fellow. They were very poor, but all the children have done pretty well. George is Janitor in the Homeopathic Hospital on Susquehanna Av. above 9th, Phila. Robert gave me some information about abolition events.

Yesterday the Trolley Company who are about to build a line from Barren Hill to Norristown on Germantown turnpike road in front of Helen's house, close to the entrance to her front door. They dug and plowed and laid the rails almost to the bridge near the Livezey's store. Mr. Hovenden and others went to Norristown and got an injunction to restrain them, which stopped them and will keep them off until some day this week when the case will be tried.

Letters from Joseph, Howard M. Jenkins and &c. Palp. twice, but went off without the water.

September 3: Monday.

9 P.M. Went to Norristown with Helen, called on George Wright about his knowledge of abolition matters. Afternoon wrote his account and re-wrote and arranged what I had had.

No rain. Barn cisterns exhausted. But as we have a good big pond, we can do well enough, if the house cistern holds on.

It is now about ten days that the country has been filled with smoke from Forest fires.

September 4: Tuesday.

Slept pretty well. Was very comfortable. How thankful I am that I have no diseased part, no pain, no cancer, no stricture of the urethra, from which I have seen men in even middle age suffer so fearfully day and night, especially at night, for years.

3 P.M. At Norristown yesterday Dr. Alice Bennett told me she would send to me a brief notice of me, cut from the Massachusetts "Springfield Daily Republican," and here the mail brought it this morning. It is but a little more added to what has been going the rounds of the papers all over the country.

9 P.M. George Corson and Lizzie came for a few minutes about 5 ½ P.M. Some letters, Dr. Anders, &c.

September 5: Wednesday.

This is the Wernersville Day. Will go over to see if Mr. Hovenden and Helen intend to go. There was just a slight sprinkle of rain in the night. Breakfast is ready.

9 P.M. I am just home from Wernersville. As Helen and Thomas thought, when at 8 A.M. I went to see them about it, they would not go, I at 9 started with my own team and "Jimmy" to Norristown. Then I heard that Tacie expected to go. So I hastened to

her house, and she was ready, just starting for the train at Bridgeport. So we went over. Many Norristown people came so that we had quite a numerous company, all Trustees & the women & men officials. Took on more at Pottstown & Reading. Arrived at Wernersville Hospital after 12 noon. Had a most excellent lunch, hundreds of us there were. That over, we passed through the buildings. Then at 3 P.M. the exercises began in the Chapel, a very large hall. We, Tacie & self were on the second row of benches, and at the end of the row, so as not to be too hot. I did not care to listen to the speeches as I was too deaf to hear any speakers. The Governor spoke at considerable length. No, first the chairman of the Building Commission, to turn over to the Governor their report, final Report of what they had done and the building itself. Then the Governor, then Mr. Dechart, Chairman of the Board of Trustees spoke after receiving it. Then Mr. Gobin, member of the Legislature, then in a few minutes adjourned. We returned to the Administration building, had a brief lunch. Then down the plank port path to the train and at 5:30 started for home.

Numerous were the doctors and others who came to speak to me. Just above Pottstown, palp. attacked me, but I sat still for many miles, when Dr. Weaver got ice water for me, but it was not quite cold enough to take it off. Before we reached Reading it ceased its rapid beating.

At Bridgeport, Jimmy with the carriage was awaiting our arrival. We stopped at Tacie's home to let her out. Then at 9 A.M. [P.M.] reached home. Not so very tired.

September 6: Thursday.

Rather poor night. Palp. twice. In all a couple of hours disturbed. At 5 A.M. had cramps in my legs for half hour or more. Had not taken any med. after I reached home, [this was] probably the cause. Am now 9 A.M. pretty well.

Staid at home all day and increased the size of my papers by new matter rec'd.

September 7: Friday.

All day at home and engaged closely weaving in the various bits of information rec'd. from those written to. Four letters today.

September 8: Friday.

A poor night, as I took no tonic yesterday and scarcely any anodyne, only about the 1/8th of a grain of Celestial (sulph. morph.). Will write a few letters then hie me to Norristown to see Annie Cresson, my gd. daughter who is weak and miserable.

Had a valuable letter from Joseph Fitzwater, son of one of our earliest anti-slavery folks in this County and a member of the Anti-Slavery Society, Abel Fitzwater. He has given me valuable information.

8 P.M. Since noon it has been a little showery, but all the evening thus far since six P.M., it has rained copiously. There were some hard crashing thunder half hour ago. Oh it is a refreshing rain after weeks & weeks of drought.

September 9: Sunday.

I took a bath last night at 9 o'clock, and as I had taken a teaspoonful of the tonic of Quinine, Iron & Strychnia with 1/8 gr. of morpheum, I slept well & feel well this morning. The sun came up bright and spread its great influence over the country which

being so thoroughly wet with last evenings rain sparkled & flashed from every blade of grass and leaf of trees more beautiful than thousands of costly diamonds could. This Sun of ours cannot be the one that Joshua stopped in its course. That Sun was one that came out of the fanatical brain of a liar. How much longer will people believe these old Munchausen stories? As long as the Priests control them.

9 P.M. Frank Day, Jawood Lukens, Susan Lukens and Joseph's wife Ada were all here in the forenoon for a couple of hours nearly. Went away before dinner. The yard is green and cheerful looking again. The rain was timely. Several families were out of water.

All afternoon I was engaged in writing on my paper and on other matters.

Every day and night nearly I have one, sometimes two spells of palpitation, but the water if cold as ice can make it, stops them at once.. But it must be cold as it can be made by having some water in a tin cup, or tumbler with lumps of ice in it and there stirred around a few minutes. Then it will require only about three or four swallows to instantly stop it. As it comes from many refrigerators, two tumblers full will not do it. I can see, knowing this, how almost every one using this remedy will fail, the water being not cold enough. They say "it is ice-water," just as if all water that has lumps of ice in it is of equal coldness.

September 10: Monday.

Rode to Charles Stout's early to see Hannah. Took Dr. Percy Corson along to turn over the case & the family to his care.

From Stout's I went to Ambler to see Henry Jones & wife and if possible get some information about a case of "arrest of a fugitive slave that occurred there more than seventy years ago. Home just at 12 noon. Busy at home all afternoon.

Several letters today, one each from Dr. Wilson, Dr. Wolfe, Mr. L. Kenderdine, Dr. Anders, R. R. Corson, and announcements of Dr. Eugene Corson's wedding at New Orleans. To bed at 9 P.M.

September 11: Tuesday.

Slept pretty well last night and feel well this morning. There is a great change of Temperature. Last evening the Therm. was 86, now it is 62° F.

9 P.M. All the afternoon I have been at my work on my paper. Have rec'd. the looked for letter from Mrs. Tyson, and with preface and appendix have put it in its place in the record.

Noon. Busy writing, reading the Press filled with the scores of murders, suicides, defalcations, embezzlements, Green goods men's^{xi} doings, Republican elections success in all quarters, Corea [Korea] & Japan about to unite against China, and the thousand and one strange doings of the people every where. I only glance over the pages of the paper and notice the headings and occasionally am led to read an item that seems worthy of attention. Many persons read every thing in it and then get a paper of a different political party. It is amazing what time they spend, waste I may say, in that way.

I have every thing needed for my purpose at the County Medical Society and numerous other little matters to be done in Norristown and will leave, with Mary, for that place.

September 12: Wednesday.

Busy on forenoon at many things. Afternoon. Attended the meeting of the Medical Society (County Soc.). Examined the file of the Free Press edited by Robert Iredell in 1833, issue for June 26th, 1833, and found a published report of the arrest of a slave at Izzachar [Issachar] Kenderdines in October 1822, for which I have been for an account of from who ever could remember having heard it spoken of. It will enable me to make out the history of what was done by Abolitionists in Horsham.

Received from Mrs. Sarah Roberts Tyson an account of the redemption of slaves from their master by her mother many years ago, which helps to make the Upper Merion history of what was done interesting.

September 13: Thursday.

Brought Frannie from Spring Mill, and Susan and Ada & Edward came and staid till 12 noon. I could not read much today having this company. Took Frannie to the cars at 4:40 P.M.

September 14: Friday.

Slept well last night till 5 o'clock. Then began to think about some of the provisions in my will and got quite uneasy about it, felt as though I ought to make some change in my bequest to Hannah Corson. Instead of leaving \$2000, to leave her only the interest of it. So after breakfast I will go up and see John about it.

9 P.M. Went to Norristown soon after breakfast. Arranged matters. Home by noon. Afternoon, after or rather while writing the word afternoon, I was struck by the palp. It was very severe, but the ice-water stopped it at once. I wrote and read, &c., and nothing of note occurred.

September 15: Saturday.

Up at 5:40. Leisurely washed and dressed. Then at 6 called Mary Cunningham and came down stairs and began to write. In a few minutes I had an unusually severe attack of palp., but a resort to the ice-water soon arrested its jollification.

9 P.M. At Norristown to see Joseph Fornance about publishing my paper, to know whether the Society will publish my paper. Had a long talk with him and got some information that makes it necessary to change my record about some Norristown affairs. Thus it is that I am compelled to alter my Mss. It is a trouble to do that in some things. Whole sheets have to be taken out. Did several other matters, got ice and then came home.

September 16: Sunday.

6 ½ A.M. Feeling pretty well. Weather very warm. Will not go to Meeting today.

9 P.M. Had read almost every paper in the Friends Journal and Intelligencer by 10 ½ A.M. when Jaywood Lukens brought Joseph & Ada and their son Edward up to see us. Joseph has his leave for a month & will stay with us.

At 3 P.M. Ada and myself started in the carriage to Lucilla Righters, as Ada wished to see the old house built by Robert Morris at Spring Mill. For years it was owned by the Phila. Vineyard Company.

She was not at home. I had so strong a desire for a drink of water from the great Spring nearby that I borrowed a glass and went to it and drank a tumbler full of the water. I felt not well. I suppose that was the cause of my desire for the cold water. By the time I got home was weak and had a sense of exhaustion unusual in me. Soon after reaching home began to feel great heat over my forehead and a regular feverish condition. I took two teaspoonsful of the weak sulph. Morph. sol., 1/8 of a grain in all, then had Joseph to pour cold water over my head and neck for a few minutes. He was opposed to my going into a bath. I then went to bed. After a while took 3 teaspoonsful again. Soon I began to feel the exhaustion and heat diminish, and I finally got asleep and had some good naps throughout the night, and I am now pretty well, 6 ½ o'clock Monday morning.

September 17: Monday.

9 P.M. At home all day, save a visit to Conshohocken with Jos. Jos. & Ada went to Norristown after noon.

September 18: Tuesday.

Slept pretty well though awake and up often. Palp. once, but after jumping up suddenly then throwing myself suddenly on the bed and jumping up again suddenly, it went off. This has proved so often efficient with me that I try it now before resorting to the ice. It often goes off when I get it in the day time by just waiting a few minutes. I avoided any work at my paper yesterday, because I did not feel myself up to my usual condition of health. After 3 ½ P.M. when Jimmy had come from school, he lapped up minerals for the George School.

What I have written above was Monday's work and last night.

9 P.M. Joseph, wife & son went to Richard Day's in Germantown this morning. I did not write much, nor do any thing of importance. Very rainy all day after 9 A.M. Got some minerals ready for the school.

September 19: Wednesday.

8 A.M. Last evening Tildy told me we had barely ice enough to fill the mug for the night. I went to bed before 9 P.M. At 10:30 awakened with a spell of palp. upon me. After waiting half an hour hoping it would leave, I went for the ice. Lo! It was melted, save a piece as big as a walnut. I could not make the water cold enough with that. It failed me. Then I went to the bed and waited till eleven o'clock. It was still battering away. I got up and went down stairs to take some medicine. Just as I was at the head of the stairs, the palp. stopped. I then had short naps until 5:30 when palp. came again. Waited half hour, then dressed myself. While doing so, it went off.

How did I stand it for nearly fifty years without any thing to arrest these spells, and I going on with my work? The spells then lasted me for from 8 to 22 hours. I don't see how I ever worked along.

September 20: Thursday.

After two days of rain this morning and all the day has been all that could be desired for the great parade of 83 Fire Companies in Norristown. Crowds of people were in attendance and the papers of tomorrow will be filled with an account of the display.

I take no interest in such work, never did. None of us went. We enjoyed ourselves in business and recreation at home.

September 21: Friday.

9 P.M. Ready for bed but must write something here, and what? That a neighbor whom I have known for half a century, a daughter of Jonathan Jones, widow, too, of Samuel Foulke, a very pretty black eyed young woman long ago, and for many years an engaging, retiring Quaker widow, was coming to meeting yesterday with her sister when the horse frightened and she was thrown from the carriage and killed. Ah! Not protected even when going to Meeting. We are the creatures of accident to a wonderful degree.

This morning I rec'd. from some publisher "The Monist." Have read but little yet, but see that it is not Orthodox, not a believer in Jonah swallowing the whale, and forty Devils coming out of one man. I will read more of it if allowed by the Imperious forces of Nature.

Have been much engaged with the new matter coming to me for my abolition paper. It involves taking away some what [of] that [which] has been written and putting in the more authentic history received. Quite troublesome. But I wish it to be right.

Joseph has gone to see some of the city doctors.

September 22: Saturday.

6 ½ A.M. Very damp, foggy and colder. Ah! How insidiously, as it were, does the Fall go on getting cooler and cooler till winter sets in. Will I see the winter? I don't know. Will wait, and while waiting, live on as usual, working, eating, sleeping day after day.

Joseph & Ada had Emily Corson and her twin daughters & Ida Corson to see them this P.M. as Joseph & Ada had returned from a visit to Frannie Day & family.

I had worked away at my minerals and at my paper so that I was real tired and could not enjoy the company. When they went away at 5 P.M., I lay down for an hour.

More letters about runaway slaves.

September 23: Sunday.

Poor night. Could not sleep, though I went to bed at 8:15, until midnight, thinking so much about things past and present. Yet I was not uncomfortable until 5 A.M. when I got a spell of palp. Bore it a half hour, then took ice-water and stopped it. After breakfast got another quite hard one. After waiting a while went up stairs intending to get the ice-water, but just as I reached it, the palp. left. Then read the Friends Intelligencer and Journal for an hour and got a third spell. Waited a while in vain. Then took the ice-water & it left. Just after that Walter Corson & wife came and soon Jawood Lukens (not Susan) & Thos. Yocom. I staid but a quarter of an hour or so with them, then started to write this.

Talking with a group of people is hard for me. I can't hear, or talk to any one but the one close to me, and the much talking of the others wearies me, though I can't tell what they talk about. It is now five minutes of eleven o'clock.

Afternoon. Joseph & Ada went at 3 ½ P.M. to Jawood Lukens to meet Robert & Becky, who expect to go to Europe soon.

Ellwood Corson, M.D. and dau. Kitty made us an hour visit. No palp. since noon. Ellwood had very interesting news for me. Kitty is an uncommonly fine girl.

September 24: Monday.

7 $\frac{3}{4}$ A.M. Slept better last night, indeed very well. This is a beautiful morning. The sun is so bright. The grass so green and luxuriant all over the lawn. As I sit here by the window on the north side of the house and look out at the chickens, it seems to me that they are happy, though doubtless they have some time in many places to make their own living from scanty resources. How many animals get scarcely half enough to eat. How field-mice, moles, Rabbits, Foxes, &c., manage to do it I don't know.

The poor horses tied up night & day, as many are with only half as much poor feed as they should have are thus abused. How confining and irksome it is few people realize, else they would at least give them freedom to walk around.

6 P.M. Joseph & self have returned from the funeral of Anna Foulke at Plymouth Friends Grave yd. It was a very large funeral. Five sermons and a prayer, three women, two men, one [of] whom prayed.

I met many friends whom I have not seen for 20 to 30 years, and all have changed greatly. Grey hairs abundant. All seemed so pleased to see Joseph and myself, and I was truly gratified to meet them, but very few, if any of them, I shall ever see again. Palp. after reaching home [was] soon over. Susan came up and Ada went home with her, so as to go from there early to the city tomorrow. Have finished a long letter to Thomas Adamson.

September 25: Tuesday.

Last evening after supper I took a draught of ice-water and immediately felt chilly, lay down and was heavily covered with clothes and took some paregoric. After a while got warmed up and felt feverish, but though loaded with clothes, did not sweat. After an hour or so felt pretty comfortable and had a tolerably good night.

Rose at 6. Have been pretty comfortable today, by reason of taking $\frac{1}{8}$ gr. morph. at breakfast time instead of doing it at 2 or 3 P.M. as I have lately done.

Joseph & self went to Norristown this A.M. This afternoon, writing & at minerals. After supper at 6 P.M. felt chilly as last night. Heaped on the clothes and lay on the lounge for a couple of hours and now feel pretty well.

September 26: Wednesday.

Was about home all the forenoon. At two P.M. started to a Reception, the Klauder Reception, David & wife, on the anniversary of their wedding fifty years ago. They live $\frac{1}{2}$ mile below Barren Hill on Ridge Turnpike Road. I was the only person this side of their home who was invited, save four neighbors families close to their home. I attended the family as their physician for many years. It was emphatically a meeting of Klauvers. Eleven Klauvers came from Germany a half century ago, and all had families, and there were what is left of the emigrants and their products. It was a most respectable company of fine women and men. The entertainment was quite stylish without ostentation. It was from 2 to 4 P.M. I was introduced by the oldest son to the assembled hundred and had great attention paid to me. The old folks were so glad to see me, so full of gratitude for my coming, that I was well paid for going, even for that alone.

But it was a real pleasure to be with them. The neighbors, too, who were there were of my old patrons.

September 27: Thursday.

7 A.M. Slept very well last night. Awake only three times and very comfortable then.

9 P.M. Have at last concluded the writing of the "Plymouth Group" of Abolitionists. I have had more difficulty in writing that than with all the others combined, because it was composed almost wholly of our own Corson family, I mean Joseph Corson & all his eight children and some grand children. I finally concluded to speak of them as I would have spoken of them had they been of any other family and who had made so bold and aggressive attacks in Slavery regardless of the abuse heaped on them by pro-slavery advocates.

I rec'd. a letter from Mr. Bosbyshell who married Martha, daughter of Rev'd. Nathan Stem who was so strongly opposed by Adam Slemmer & a few others in his anti-slavery doings. The Slemmers left the Church. Mrs. Bosbyshell referred me for particulars to Mrs. Benj. E. Chain. So today I visited her and got satisfactory information. Also visited Lawyer Fornance, John J. Corson, &c. and did some shopping for daughter Mary who was with me.

September 29: Saturday.

6:40 A.M. Slept well. Am pretty fair this morning but quite anxious because Joseph does not come from Philad. where he went to have a small operation performed on his son at the Orthopedic Hospital. I know he expected to come home the same day, yet it is now several since he went. I fear something may have happened unfortunately.

The world hurries on. Even the wind this morning drives on from the N.E. as if impatient to get somewhere else.

In the forenoon of today, I took Mary with me to Norristown and laid my abolition history of the doings of Abolitionists of the County before Lawyer Fornance. He wished to show it to Dr. Beeber (Presbyterian Minister) who with him are a Committee from the Historical Society to ask me to prepare it. In the afternoon I went to Conshohocken to see if Joseph and Ada were there. They arrived there from the city while I was at Jawood Lukens'. Was called in to see an old patron who was poorly and feared her physician was not doing right in her case. Home by six o'clock.

September 30: Sunday.

7 ½ A.M. Slept well feel pretty comfortable. Pleasant morning.

9 P.M. Have had Joseph & Jawood, Thomas Hovenden and wife Helen and her sister Ida here before noon today. All went away before dinner, except Miss Ida [and] Joseph. He staid until after supper at 6 P.M. He had been gone down to Jawood's to be with his little Edward and Ada when I felt nausea and in a few minutes began to vomit. I was quite sick and vomited again in about half an hour. Took paregoric and went to bed, but before doing so had pain and looseness of the bowels. Slept now & then in the night, between the five spells of palp. that I had from 9 P.M. until 6 A.M. Monday (the time of rising today).

October 1: Monday.

4 P.M. Have taken a good deal of Paregoric since my first vomiting spell last night, in order to keep down pain in the abdomen and restrain purging. Have just risen from the lounge where I have been nearly all day. Have taken almost no food, but some Laudanum. I hope to be better before I go to bed, and to be exempt from palps. tonight by using paregoric & Laudanum to keep down the pain & purging. It was a sudden attack induced possibly by corn fritters and corn pudding which the cook had made.

October 2: Tuesday.

Went to bed last night at eleven. Had a comfortable night, no pain, no purging, and good sleep with only three awakenings. Palp. at 3 A.M. Had to take ice-water to stop it. At 8 A.M., my bowels were moved and I had a most distressing tenesmus for nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour. Took some laudanum and paregoric and finally it was quieted. Since then I have been on the sofa, lounge rather, all day and have felt no pain, no disposition to movement of the bowels. Now, six P.M. have come down to supper.

9 P.M. Have had a palp., went to bed, although Mr. Hovenden and Helen had just come at 8 P.M. and were engaged in talk with Joseph & Mary. Isaac Roberts & wife were also here before supper-time, but as I was in bed when they came, Joseph asked that I be excused from getting up, as I was not well. I am very weak but if I do not be further troubled with pain and purging, will probably be better in the morning.

October 3: Wednesday.

7 A.M. Had palp. 4 times from supper time last night till I got up this morning at six. Twice I had to take the ice-water. Then again, as soon as I got down stairs at 6:45, I had it again, but after a few minutes and after I had taken $\frac{1}{8}$ gr. morph. & one teaspoonful of the Quinine, Iron & Strychnia ($\frac{1}{60}$ gr.) Elixir, it went off. Have had a light breakfast & feel pretty well, save that I seem tremulous & fluttering about the heart.

11 A.M. Joseph has just brought Ada, Bertha Yocom and Frannie Day to stay a few hours. I feel very stupid and weak. They all went to Spring Mill to the cars at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ P.M. Joseph will leave Ada at Susan's and bring ice for me. So now Mary and I are alone again, 5 P.M.

October 4: Thursday.

7 A.M. Slept quite well. Though I went to bed last night at 9, I did not awaken until after midnight. At 3 A.M. had a palp. Had to take ice-water, as it did not leave for a pretty long wait, say 10 minutes. Am feeling tolerably well.

6 P.M. Jos. & self at Norristown to get Int. from Casualty Bonds, make deposits in Bank, get Coupons of School Bonds of Whitemarsh, see Mr. Fornance, see Dick Corson, send some things to Tacie, &c. Home at 4:50.

October 5: Friday.

Had a palp. in the night. Had to take the water, but slept well. Went to Conshohocken with Joseph today. Got a months rent for one of my own houses. Left Jos. & got home by noon after a visit to Susan & Ada and little Edward at Jawood Lukens'.

After dinner went to Norristown to see John about selling the back part of my big lot fronting the depot of the R. R. Road and also some other business. Home by 5 ¼ P.M. Had a palp. at John's. Ice water stopped it. 9 P.M. ready for bed.

October 6: Saturday.

Palp. in the night. Had to take ice-water. Was up at 6 A.M. Scarcely dressed when palp. struck me. Had to take ice-water twice, not being quite cold enough the first time. Such a large drink makes me feel as if in much danger of some evil. Took Joseph to Conshohocken after breakfast, then went to get Coupons cashed. Home by eleven. Afternoon was at my minerals, &c. Palp. before bed time.

October 7: Sunday.

Palp. 3 times in the night. Three more from 7 ½ to the present hour, 4 P.M. Have it now as I write. Took ice water 5 P.M., went off instantly.

8:30 P.M. Palp. at 7, making ten palps. in 24 hours.

October 8: Monday.

6 ¼ A.M. Ninety years ago this day, I was born. I am pretty well this morning, though as my sleeping room was heated from the stove in the back parlor, I was too hot in bed and much exercised to keep from being too hot or too cold. Only Tildy the cook down stairs yet.

9 P.M. At 10:40 A.M. James brought Tacie and her daughter Carrie from Norristown. Before eleven Bertha Yocom, her daughters Frannie, Georgie & Dorothea and her son Hiram came. Susan Lukens also came, and Frannie Day and her daughter Bertha & her sons, Charles and Richard, also Ida Corson, my niece, stepped in, and while we were at dinner, at one o'clock, Jaywood Lukens and Thomas Yocom came. After dinner my niece Helen Hovenden photographed us in a group. By 5 P.M. they were at the cars for their different homes.

After 5 ½ Dr. George Highley & wife came. George gave me as a remembrance a book entitled "Great Truths by Great Authors." They staid but a short time as they, or at least George had to meet Dr. Tyson in the case of Dr. Beaver who had an attack of apoplexy.

Take it in its entirety, the meeting of the family was quite a success, quiet orderly, yet lively and agreeable.

October 9: Tuesday.

I feel uncommonly well today. I took Joseph to the 8 A.M. train at Spring Mill then went around to Dr. Highley's to see how poor Dr. Beaver is. Found that he was a little better. Spent a half hour with daughter Susan Lukens. Got home at 10 A.M., found Prof. Gates awaiting me. Spent an hour with him, a wonderfully scientific man. Then went to Spring Mill to bring Joseph home.

After dinner we went to Norristown to see Mr. Fornance about my papers and to see John about business. Home by 5 P.M. Went to bed at 9 P.M. Have not had a single spell of palp. since last Monday night, and had had none from Wednesday morning till the one that took place Thursday night.

October 10: Wednesday.

Slept pretty well. A rain & wind storm all night. A dreary morning. No palp. since Thursday night.

4 P.M. Joseph & self went to Norristown at 1 P.M., saw John. Got my account, 428 Dols. 35 cts., due me Oct. 8th (my 91st birth day), 90 years old. Went from John's to Montgomery Cemetery to see the graves of brother William, Follen and Mary, and other friends. Have just gotten home.

Had two spells palp. before dinner. The first for six days nearly. 9 P.M. Ready for bed.

October 11: Thursday.

6 ½ A.M. Up at 6. Had slept pretty well, no pain. Wakened often, every 1 ½ or 2 hours, but after looking at my watch and peeping out at the stars or clouds as might be, I lay down and was soon asleep again. At 4 A.M. had a palp., an attack of palps. The ice-water arrested it at once.

6 P.M. Joseph & self went to Conshohocken early, 8 A.M., to hear how Dr. Beaver is getting along. Last Saturday he had an attack of apoplexy. He has been by a good many people charged with too much imbibing too much whiskey. That we find true, also that he scarcely has the least practice while the common feeling is that he is just worn out, with his immense practice. Of course as physicians some of us knew better. His wife will be charged with having been very expensive inasmuch as they will be found to be almost without property, if Dr. Beaver should die. But it was he, not she who expended the money, in keeping 5 to 7 horses when two were all needed. Then, too, fine carriages and a great many other expenses of his begetting. She is a fine, good woman.

This evening Thomas Hovenden, Helen, Ida and Miss Loveth were here spending the evening.

October 13: Saturday.

Up early. Feel pretty well. Slept well. Joseph and Ada & son preparing to leave us to go to Fort Russell on tomorrow. We may never see them again. But Joseph has concluded to retire in 1 ½ years from now, so if I can hold on till then, we may meet once more. He can retire on ¾ pay. There is no need for him to continue longer as he is well off for money & even when retired, his pay will be about \$2700 a year.

At 8 A.M., I went to Conshohocken to see Jos. & Ada & Edward off for Fort Russell. At 9 they left. I then went to Dr. Highley's. Beaver is but little better. Came home by Spring Mill. Afternoon. Read and selected minerals for the schools. Feel dull & stupid.

It is likely I will never again see Joseph, Ada or son. Well it can't be otherwise, if I don't live longer than 1 ½ years, and it seems to me that at the very most, I can't reach half that time. And I don't seem to be of any use here. My work is done.

Mary and self feel very lonely since Joseph & family are really away, but still we will try to bear it as people with so many blessings award[ed] us should. It is 7 P.M. and I feel lively compared with two hours ago.

October 14: Sunday.

Read the Friends Intelligencer and Journal until 10 o'clock, then went to Meeting. Joel Lare [Lair] preached, after the deepest silence had prevailed for $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour. As soon as he finished, I went out because of a persisting inclination to cough. Went then to see the graves of my parents, Joseph & Hannah Dickinson Corson. Some years ago I put up nice, new stones that old Jacob Albertson broke with a sledge hammer, just on the inside of the new head one. Mother died when she was only 47 years of age.

4 P.M. Therm. 50° F. It is really quite cold and the wind very hard to bear.

October 15: Monday.

Palp. 3 times last night. Had to take water every time. The last time was nearly six o'clock, so I then staid up, dressed and came down. Thermometer at sunrise 37° F., cold weather for the time of year.

Joseph & family speeding along from Chicago to Omaha, I suppose.

8 P.M. At seven o'clock Ida came to bid us good-bye. I deposited \$500 in Montg'y. Trust Co. this afternoon, and if E. M. C. would pay up, I could put up \$500 more.

Have been very busy all day, and feel all the better of it. This morning [went] a couple of miles away to buy a cow. Then at 9 A.M. to Norristown. This P.M. at Consho. Dr. B. a little better. That son of his, Jawood says, is a desperate character. There seems to be nothing too lose for him & so it has been, the color'd man says, for several years. Hallowell the druggist, who has supplied Dr. B. with medicine is cross about him now. He told Geo. Highley that he was 40 days sick, not bad much of the time, and Dr. B. charged him \$400, so as to settle his Bill. He is done with him. Mrs. B. has taken things into her own hands, will sell the horses, &c.

October 16: Tuesday.

9 P.M. Have been busy all day. At Norristown to see John J. Corson about an offer of \$3000 which he has had for my Marshall St. house and lot, also at Conshohocken on business matter and have spent a couple of hours getting proper minerals for the George School and Norristown High School. Have felt well, but one spell of palpitation.

October 17: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Spent the day as I did yesterday. Had several letters and wrote several.

October 18: Thursday.

9 P.M. Up early as usual. Feel pretty well, as I had good sleep. Was up several times in the night as usual, to urinate, but as I have not any difficulty in doing it, and as I remember which agony I have seen men suffer on every attempt to urinate both by night and by day, because of strictures in the urethra caused by the "Clap" in their early days, I may well feel happy that I am not thus afflicted.

Very busy all day. The usual number of murders, suicides, embezzlements, robberies, deaths by Rail Roads and by Trolleys have been reported.

The weather has been charming during the past three days. There is pleasure in living.

October 19: Friday.

6 ½ A.M. 90 years and eleven days old. Had a good night and feel well this morning. After breakfast took Mary & left her at Susan Lukens', while I went to the "Red Frames" on Elm St. to direct the men how to repair the gutter, curbing and pavement. Took a walk from there to where Jawood Lukens (son-in law) is building a large annex to the "Rolling Mill" to almost reach the "Tube Mill." The three will be parts of a whole plant for making Tubes. A big operation.

Returning home, called on Joseph's Italian tenants and got the rent. Reached home at eleven. Then went to Post Office in the carriage. Ready for dinner at 12:10 and very tired.

Gave one of my red-frame tenants a bushel of potatoes for a goose. Poor thing was kept a prisoner in a small, dirty yard, its mate and a daughter having been killed by the rail road cars.

October 20: Saturday.

Up at 6 after a fair night's rest. Went about lively to get to Jawood Lukens by 8 A.M. as Susan and self want to take 8:37 train for Broad & Market Depot in Phila. Took the train and in half an hour were in the city. In my forgetfulness some months ago, I bought a spring over-coat after Susan had bought me one. So, I took one of them back today and they gave me in exchange for it a handsome, black clothe winter one. Then we went to Gutekunst [Gutekunst] to have my [photograph] taken. He put me in five different positions. Which he will perfect, I know not. That done, I was pretty weary. We then took street car to Broad St. and down that to 747 to daughter Bertha's. She gave me a cup of tea and toasted brown bread and butter. A better meal I never have eaten. As soon as finished, we started in the coach for the depot and without hurrying were in the cars for home several minutes before it started at 12:25. At Conshohocken, Mary and our boy, Jimmy Cunningham were in waiting with the carriage, and we soon whirled home, Susan having been taken to her home by Mrs. Howard Wood whose carriage was also waiting there for Mrs. Wood. We were soon at home where dinner awaited me. After dinner I lay down for three quarters of an hour. Then got up and worked with my minerals till sunset. Then supper, and since supper, have had several letters and the afternoon newspaper. Have also written a long letter to Mrs. Howard Wood to send with my pamphlet about Recognition of Women Physicians, &c., &c., which I sent to her as soon as written by Jimmy.

It is now 8:30 P.M. and I will be off to bed as soon as possible. Oh! how busy I am day after day from 6 A.M. till 9 P.M.

October 21: Sunday.

7 A.M. Slept pretty well until 4 A.M. when palp. struck me. I waited a while, but it did not leave me, so took the water. Went to bed and soon fell asleep and awakened at 6 o'clock with palp. again. Water fixed things right again. Therm. 50° and foggy and as dripping wet from roofs and trees as I have ever seen it.

6 P.M. Have had palp. 4 times since 4 o'clock this morning. Hannah Bacon's two boys, men, were here this afternoon & staid to supper.

7 P.M. Have just had another spell of palp. Took the water and it is over.

October 22: Monday.

Had palp. twice last night, but concluded to wait and see if it would not leave me within an hour or two, as it now goes off some times in a short time, but in others will not without the water. So lying on my left side I calmly awaited the result. It went off in less than an hour. It came again in a few hours. I again waited, how long I do not know as after waiting a good while, I fell asleep and when I awoke it was gone.

I will today take but little medicine. I have a little fear of taking the Strychnia, even though the dose be only 1/60 of a grain but going on for months.

9 P.M. Went to Norristown taking Mary along at 9 o'clock. Rec'd. from Mr. Fornance the paper "on the work of Abolitionists of this County" some weeks ago. Dr. Beeber, the Presbyterian Minister, who first suggested the getting of me to do it, had read the papers and in sending it back to Mr. Fornance, accompanied it with the following note.

Dear Mr. Fornance.

I have read with great pleasure the papers of Dr. Corson. They are of intense interest and ought to be permanently preserved. I hope in the near futures we shall hear the Dr. read them before our Society.

He has taken a vast deal of pains with their preparation.

Sincerely Yours,

I. R. Beeber.

Afternoon. I staid at home, worked with my minerals. Bought a fine gander and married him to my widowed goose (which I bought a few days ago from one of my tenants in Conshohocken.), whose husband and daughter were killed by the cars. Gave \$1.50 for him. It was pleasant to see how quickly and pleasantly they became acquainted.

October 23: Tuesday.

6 A.M. Had two palp. spells in the night, but waited on both occasions nearly half an hour and was then relieved. At 9 A.M. took Mary with me to the Post Office, then to Conshohocken. Home by noon.

Afternoon. At home, occupied as is usual with me. No palp. today. Some letters, wrote only one.

October 24: Wednesday.

9 P.M. Slept well. Feel pretty bright this morning. Had letters today from Joseph, Miss Rutter, Dr. Charles McIntyre, and daughter Frannie Day.

Was very busy all the forenoon and part of the time was in Conshohocken. The Trolley from Norristown to Conshohocken by the way of Harmanville is finished as far as the toll gate house, my house. Tomorrow if a day fit to work, they will be at it in the middle of the turnpike road from the gate to the bridge over the Schuylkill River. It is amazing to see how rapidly they build it.

I have made a new Will today, mainly to appoint only two Executors, instead of four, as I had done in the last one in 1889. That and the minerals occupied the afternoon.

Dr. Atkin, the Episcopal Minister at Conshohocken died yesterday of Bright's disease, aged 70. How our friends have dropped away during the last four months!

Palp. twice today. Waited about a quarter of an hour each time and was then relieved without taking ice-water. What a comfort. I have much for which to be thankful.

October 25: Thursday.

Went to Norristown in the morning to arrange matters with John and get two Deeds that he wrote to be sent to Joseph and Ada for their signatures. I think John has not, or rather I have not said they should be affirmed to.

Rainy afternoon. When in Norristown I examined the minerals in the High School, a beautiful, most interesting collection were Mr. Ralston's, afterward bought by the School Board.

No special news today.

October 26: Friday.

Slept pretty well last night, one palp. and had to take the ice-water after waiting an half hour without avail. Wrote replies to correspondents and re-wrote some of my Historical paper, or rather wove new matter into it here and there as it came from correspondents. It is troublesome to insert new matter.

Brought Frannie & little Richard from Spring Mill at 11 o'clock. Went to Consho. and stopped a while with Susan. Busy with my paper, to put it in order to show the publisher tomorrow so as to get his estimate for one or two hundred copies, to be paid for by the Historical Society if it agrees to do so. If not, I will do it all myself.

Only one spell of palp. today, and as I was deeply engaged on my paper, I just cont'd. on and in about 15 minutes it ceased its rapid motion.

October 27: Saturday.

5 P.M. No spell of palp. last night. Up at 6:15 A.M. Went, Mary with me, to Norristown. Had the Editor to make an estimate of cost for publishing my Historical paper. He said it would make 80 pages of the size and type like the Society is having its proceedings put in and the cost would be \$55 for 100 copies.

Had business with John J. Corson and took 3 shares of Water Co. stock at \$92 per share, par value only \$50, so it seems to be rising. Good stock John says. I paid \$125 on it and John paid the rest. I had taken two weeks ago, had deposited rather, \$500 in Montg'y. Trust Co., and as I could not get 3 per cent for it unless I leave it over one month, I concluded not to draw any of it, as early in Nov. some of the Banks, and the City Sixer Dividends, will come in.

500 copies of my Hydrophobia papers, reprints, came today. Sorry they sent so many. No palp. today.

9 P.M. Nothing more that is not of every evening occurrence, save that I have rec'd. from Mrs. Dr. Nugent's widow's attorney an affidavit that she nor the doctor were ever married before they were married to each other.

October 28: Sunday.

7 ½ o'clock. Slept well last night, but at 5 this morning had an attack of palp.,

waited a while to let it have a chance to leave, but as it did not, took the ice-water. After six had it again, but after waiting only ten minutes or so in bed, I began to wash myself and fumbling in the drawers to get some clean clothes, and it suddenly left, as though disgusted with my apparent disregard of it.

9 P.M. Read the Friends Intelligencer and Journal till, or nearly until Jay & Susan came. They staid until after 12, then we had dinner. Mary went up to take a nap, and I began at the beginning of my paper and re-wrote several pages and corrected other pages so that the paper might be read by some one, as I am not able to read aloud before an audience. Kept at it till I could no longer see to write without light. After supper Mary and I sat in the room in front of the stove talking, when suddenly a spell of palp. struck me. I at once got up and said to Mary, I will begin a letter to "Aunt Harriet," which for a day [she had] wished me to do, as some times if I can get the mind absorbed by some particular reading or writing the palp. will disappear. I did so, and had not gotten through with her letter [when] it disappeared. I have read and written considerably since and been very well. It is now nearly 9 o'clock and I will be off to bed.

October 29: Monday.

Only one palp. last night and that not till 5 A.M. No spell today. Went to Norristown at 9 A.M. Home at 11:45 A.M. did several business matters. At home revising my paper all afternoon. Laid in about six tons of Lehigh Coal at 4.60 per ton, at the "cost off" a st---- [illeg.]

October 30: Tuesday.

Slept well last night. That means getting asleep soon (within an hour), sleeping just about an hour or an hour and a quarter, then awaking, then getting up, looking at the watch, urinating, going to bed again to pursue the same round until six o'clock when I get up, call Mary Cunningham to get up and open every window down stairs, see to the fire and put things in order generally. It is now just seven o'clock.

A dull morning, moderate temperature and pleasant out of doors. I have only this day to get my paper in order to be read before the Historical Society tomorrow, so must occupy the day, if nothing intervenes to finish it, the best I can.

"Breakfast" is sounding in the tingle, or tinkle, of the bell.

All day until 4 P.M. I kept steadily at the work of revising my paper on the work of Abolitionists, in order to have as free from defects as possible for me. I scarcely left the desk for even a few minutes, save to eat dinner at noon. I am pleased with what I have done. Have corrected parts, re-written other parts and have written it all so plainly that almost any tolerably good reader will have no difficulty in reading it. Before noon tomorrow, if circumstances favor me, I will finish all of it. The meeting will take place in the room of the Court House allowed us.

At four P.M. I took Mary to Conshohocken in the carriage, as I had not been able to give attention when so engaged as I was all day before that time. We called at Jawood Lukens' and had a little chat with Susan. After tea I looked over the Press, which I generally read before noon, but of which I did not take a thought today on account of being so occupied with the work above named.

It is bed-time and I must away to the bed.

October 31: Wednesday.

8 ½ P.M. Spent a rather poor night. Did not get asleep soon and had one spell of palp. at 4 A.M. this morning. Was awake many times in the night. After breakfast wrote somewhat on my paper.

Very rainy till noon, then suddenly cleared off. At 12 ½ o'clock, I took Helen in my carriage, James driving, to Norristown to the meeting of the Historical Society. There were about 25 or 30 present. After the usual preliminary business, reading reports of Committees, &c., &c., I was called on to read my paper, or some of it at least. I read perhaps one third of it. In all there are about 80 pages the publisher says, of the same size of these in which the proceedings of the Society are published. I read perhaps about one fourth of it. I read for nearly an hour, amid a profound silence, and an attentive audience. They gave me a vote of thanks by rising.

I did not think at first that I could read more than a few pages, but I got better as I went on. At six P.M. was at home again. Wrote a letter this morning by request of Miss Mary Cresson, in relation to the rules and ordinances in our small county-towns to prevent contagious diseases from spreading.

I now at 9 P.M. do not feel any worse for the long spell of reading.

November 1: Thursday.

Busy in the usual way with numerous things. Fine bright day. 2 palps. last night. The Trolley Road is now being made in front of Dr. Leedom's and Mrs. Hovenden's, right in the middle of the turnpike road.

November 2: Friday.

4 P.M. No palp. since yesterday morning at 8 o'clock until five minutes since. Then I concluded to engage in writing as it often leaves when I get my mind absorbed in that kind of work. Sure enough, it has gone already.

Have been busy as usual today. Went to Consho. in the forenoon to get some lumber to repair Joseph's Kelly House. I intend to [make] a cottage looking house out of it. Susan here to spend the day. Getting some of my carriages fixed today.

Yesterday I went to see Dr. J. K. Reid, who is in poor health. Has sold his farm. Visited him alone in his bed room, while the sale of his farming implements, stock and so on, were being sold; a great many people there. His 4 horses sold, one for \$3, another for 6, a third for 9 and 4th for less, I think, than \$20. It is amazing what a drag horses are.

November 3: Saturday.

Worrying night, cough much. Palp. for a whole hour, water not quite cold enough, and I concluded to be still and wait.

Have had much writing to do all the forenoon. Have sent letters and pamphlets to several friends.

9 P.M. In afternoon at Norristown on business. Home by six o'clock. Had Mary along.

November 4: Sunday.

7 ½ A.M. Slept well. No palp. Beautiful morning. Breakfast ready.

9 P.M. Well and busy all day. Susan & Jawood up as usual.

November 5: Monday.

About here and there at various things. Several letters. One from Mr. Brown who rents the Main St. House, informs me that he will move in a few days. Sorry for it. He has been a good tenant. What will become of the old home of brother William I can't say. It is blocked in by stores and I suppose will have to be fixed for a store room. After supper was taken with severe pains in my right half of the chest.

November 6: Tuesday.

This day's work in the Election Booths will decide the varied opinions of "Free Trade" of the Democrats and "Protection" as approved & demanded by the Republicans.

I went to the "polls" but did not vote for the Republican Ticket, though of the party, but cast my vote for the Prohibition Candidate for Governor. Also voted for my Democratic friend Dr. A. D. Markley for Senator, &c. He served me well the past two terms of the Legislature in passing my bill through the Senate, almost unanimously. What a nice quiet affair an Election is now. When in 1827 I cast my first vote, three townships voted at Seller's Tavern in Flourtown. Now our Whitemarsh township alone has three separate election districts, and as no taverns where an election is held can sell drink on that day, people go, vote and then go away, and no drunken man can be seen about the place. Formerly at Seller's, drunken men were numerous and fights and cursing abounded. They were riotous occasions.

November 7: Wednesday.

Republicans have a sweeping victory. Democrats amazed. New York, Cleveland's State, always so largely democratic has succumbed before the whirlwind of Republicanism and "Protection to American Industries."

Virginia and other Southern States show great dissatisfaction with Cleveland and his administration. They show disgust as well as disapprobation. I must wait to hear positive, well authenticated accounts before I write more.

November 8: Thursday.

Today I am 90 years and one month old. This morning wrote a long letter to Joseph who is now at Fort Russell, Wyoming. Wrote to him, too, the definition of American Democracy, or in President Lincoln's words, "Government of the people, by the people, for the people." This is a better title for democracy.

9 P.M. Have written several letters today and rec'd. a due proportion. Busy as usual for a rainy day. It is surprising that we scarcely have more than one or two clear days in a week now, so it has been for some weeks. Every day I read a few pages of "Those Words by Wise Men," the book Dr. Highley gave me as a birth-day present. My 91st birth-day, but only the 90th anniversary of my birth day, for I was only 90 on the 8th of last month. It is an interesting book. As a general thing Shakespeare's aphorisms do not please me so much as some others. Franklin's are always full of common sense.

November 9: Friday.

8 A.M. While writing here by the window, I am surprised to see it snowing,

lightly but yet snow. Slept well last night, up four or five times as usual though.

A long winter beginning. How shall I stand it? Not well, perhaps, though ninety winters of snow, storm, and cold have been by me endured. How much of suffering will come to the poor cannot be ever conceived by me.

The Republican victory is found to be greater than the most sanguine expected, and especially is it greater in the Southern States and New York surprising. The next Congress will be Republican. Cleveland has had his day.

Wilson, the author of the Tariff Bill of the last Congress, thrown in his own district. Singlerly, for Governor signally failed, because in great degree of disaffection among Democrats.

The Medical Society meeting. I took Mary to Norristown at one P.M., got some things done for her. Then left her with Tacie while I went to see John on business matters, and then attended the meeting. Only 12 present. Interesting papers read. Two lady physicians, one the Pathologist from the great hospital, exhibited a heart of one dead from aneurism of it.

November 10: Saturday.

9 P.M. After dinner went to Norristown to look at the heating appliances at Tacie's, to get some money of Ellwood, deposit a check, see Mr. Fornance, and attend the meeting of the Woman Suffrage Society at 3 P.M., to hear Dr. Hamer read a paper. The meeting was a great success. 20 women & Dr. Hamer, Mr. Moser, Editor of Collegeville paper "The Independent." Dr. Hamer's paper was very interesting, after reading of which, I corrected an error of his. He had said Garrison was the first one who made open, aggressive war against Slavery. The truth is, Benjamin Lundy, a meek little Jersey Quaker as early as 1828 was issuing an abolition paper, "The Genius of Universal Emancipation" in 1828 and Garrison was attracted to the subject by him and was, I think, with Lundy a year later or so in Baltimore where the paper was published. He began the Liberator in 1831, but he was so fiery in his denunciations of slavery that he obscured the mild and gentle Lundy and became the leader of the abolitionists.

Samuel Maulsby and Alan W. Corson were subscribers to the Lundy paper as early as 1828, and in 1830 I attended a small gathering to hear Friend Lundy, only seven of us, all told, in the Plymouth Meeting House. He being entertained at Samuel Maulsby's, or at Brother George Corson then living in the Maulsby home.

November 11: Sunday.

Sunrise, Temp. 32° Palp. twice last night. Had to take ice-water. Up at 6:40 this morning. Fine, clear and a brave, broad sun in the East.

9 P.M. Tacie & her daughter Carrie, Bertha & James Dorothea, and Susan & Jaywood were all here to dinner. Bertha, her daughter Georgie and son James came at four P.M. James Yocom, the husband and father came at 4 ½ P.M. and staid till 7, when the family left, so too all the others went before supper.

November 12: Monday.

9 P.M. Went to Norristown in the forenoon. Cold, damp, chilly morning. Bought a suit for Joseph Read \$12; gave Jim Cresson one overcoat of mine; took Tacie a quarter of wheat flour; bought warm gloves and warm drawers. Got Deeds returned by

Joseph from Fort Russell for Follen's lots. He and Ada signed. They are now to be signed by all the other children and their husbands, and by Mary and by Margaret, Follen's widow.

Afternoon. Was at Conshohocken & did some things. Had palp. on my way to Norristown but after riding a mile it left.

To bed.

November 13: Tuesday.

Palp. in bed at 3 A.M. Took ice-water. Frannie & Richard Junior came at 10:50, staid till 4:40 P.M. Palp. at 12:50 P.M. No startling news.

November 14: Wednesday.

Slept quite well, but up five times. Palp. at five o'clock. By throwing myself suddenly on the bed on my left side and then jumping to my feet again, it suddenly stopped the rapid palps. and came down to the 56 per minute. Two more before 9 A.M. but both spells were arrested without ice-water.

Helen's photos of my family & myself, also of children, gd. children and self, two dozen in all. Cost of photos, \$4.32

At home all day, writing, reading, directing two men, arranging minerals, &c., &c. Palps. twice today, once went off without taking any thing; once had to use ice-water.

November 15: Thursday.

I had palp twice last night, both times they ceased in about 15 minutes without any water. Was up at 6, had breakfast at 7, was at Consho. to start George Baker to putting a new weather boarding on the south end of Joseph's Kelly house. Came home, went to the P.O. at 9:15. Home again, reading the Press by 10. A few minutes later a spell came on (of palp.) and lasted me about 1 ½ hours. The first attempt with the water failed. It has just disappeared and I am writing this account of it. It was quite trying to me. How I ever bore it as well as I did years ago, before I got the water-cure, and when it seldom left me under less from 8 to 12 or 16 hours, I don't know.

After the spell left me at 12 noon, I took dinner, then lay on the lounge until 20 minutes [before] two P.M.. Slept soundly part of the time. At 2 P.M. rode to Joseph's Kelly house in Conshohocken but before I got half way there, was attacked by another spell of palp. I stopped at the house and found the men doing well, so went on to Susan's with the heart beating at 140 per minute. There I took ice-water and in a moment it was gone. After that went to the Board-yard to order more stuff, then on home. Afterward to the store to choose proper color'd paint. Then home and here at 5 P.M. am writing this account. At six, spell came again, took water & stopped it. At eight, spell came again, took water & stopped it.

It is becoming disagreeable. I am almost afraid to read or write, why? "It has all times and seasons for its own." I have not learned in all these nearly, if not quite fifty years any way, any precautions that will prevent its coming, and nothing but the cure of ice-water to arrest the tumultuous action. I have a dread to go to bed as I will have it without doubt.

Death of the Czar of Russia. This occurred about two weeks ago. He was 56 years old. Ever since his death the papers have teemed with eulogiums of him as an exceptionally kind, good ruler who had excited himself to reforms that would benefit the peasants.

The Burial Ceremonies have cont'd. for a week or more, accounts of the grandeur of every thing connected with it, his lying in State, his progress from one side of Russia to another in a what might seem to be almost a triumphal march.

Poor man. Sovereign as he was over that vast country and millions of people, the approach of Death was to him a horrid spectacle. So young and so full of power and yet so helpless against the "King of Terrors."

Thoughts about him led me to think of the many excellent men and women accustomed to all the home comforts of life, whom he had sent stripped of any comfort, torn from their families and subjected to toil in the mines of desolate Siberia.

He is now banished forever from Russia and though he is, he is less of a sufferer than he was on a throne, believing that there is no such thing as a torturing Hell.

I can not excuse him for the cruelty of banishment of delicate women and of men of refinement and culture to the desolation & suffering in the mines away in the frozen regions of Siberia, driven there, too, chained together, not clothed to bear the exposures, and sick, weary & agonized, compelled to keep on with the gang. All this too because of their aspirations for better government. "Government of the people, for the people, by the people." Lincoln.

November 16: Friday.

I had palp. at 9:50 P.M. last night and again this morning at 5 while still in bed. I did not delay long in either case, but went for the ice-water at once. Had it cold as possible, and it did its work promptly. Slept pretty well and am pretty comfortable this morning. A mild morning. Therm. 40° F. and a little hazy.

At one P.M., Mary with me, I went to Norristown to see John and others on business, about renting my houses, &c., &c. They have tenants but talk of moving.

Have felt pretty well all day. Would have been very uncomfortable if like many old, and some not very old people, I had had nothing to do, no useful business but just to sit with folded hands and think of the bodily aches or fancied aches.

Ennui is a horribly uncomfortable condition. Some would say uncomfortable and it would be better, and better too without the adjective "horribly."

In the evening read "Great Truths from Great Men," a good book to read, filled with truths from the experience of wise men. A youth who would acquaint himself with these truths, the outcome of experiences of the authors, could hardly fail to be greatly benefited by them, some as warnings, others as incentives to virtue, honor and all-manliness. Well, it is 9 o'clock and I must to bed.

My gt. [gd.] nephew Dr. George Highley brot me as a present today a small machine to shave ice, instead of breaking, for the small Refrigerator with an ice-pick, a sharp Iron like or steel. It is a handy affair and will be of great use to me, in case of palp. at night, to prepare ice-water to drink in order to arrest it. Thanks for it.

November 17: Saturday.

Just as I took up the candle to go up stairs to bed last night at 9 o'clock, palp.

struck me. So went on and took the ice-water. Slept well between my waking times, which are always about every 1 ½ hours. At two A.M. a spell of palp. struck me, but in a few minutes it, the heart, ceased its unusual action and I was well.

Up at 6, breakfast shortly after seven. Then I took Geo. Baker to Joseph's Kelly house to paint, but it began to rain, so we went on to my wood lot in Upper Merion, on South Valley Hill, to select some trees to cut for posts and rails. Rained pretty copiously before we reached home at 10:30.

Nearly all the afternoon from 2 to 4 with my minerals, getting them for the "George School."

A poor little boy came along at 4 o'clock with long-handled wooden spoons. He had three, had only sold two in all the day. Only 10 cts. a piece, his father who is a cripple makes them. I took them all and gave him five cents to ride home in the Ridge Av. Trolley Cars to Roxborough where he lives. "Tilly" gave him several nice pieces of bread and butter to take with him.

A spell of palp. before I got to bed.

November 18: Sunday.

Palp. at 11 P.M. last night. Slept pretty well. Had read all the evening until 9 P.M. Up at 6:20, reading till Jay & Susan came at 10 A.M. Read the Intelligencer, Friend's Journal.

Afternoon. Took Mary with me over to the Gulf. I wished to interview Henderson Supplee about the Poor House. He is an Ex-Director. Was not at home. Crowds of people as usual from Conshohocken strewed along the Trolley road, men, women, children, &c.

9 P.M. Off to bed. Palp. before I went.

November 19: Monday.

Up at 6, at 7 ½ off to Conshohocken to get paint for painting Joseph's "Kelly House." Palp on the road but it ceased without taking the ice-water. The Trolley people putting up the poles and wires in front of Helen's house & the store. They are pushing the work in several parts of the road, some digging the place for the cross ties, some laying the ties, followed by others laying the rails, &c., &c., from Plymouth through Hickorytown to Hallowell Avenue and along it to Norristown.

In front of my Sandy Street house where Tacie lives, it goes in the middle of the street, and today as I went from Tacie's to Norristown I had to have the horse led with great care & precision to pass between the great mass of sand and the gutter. They dig the track for the ties from 1 foot to 1 ½, and the am't. of sand thrown out is enormous to be in a traveled road.

November 20: Tuesday.

Two spells of palp. last night. Therm. 22° F. This cold wave came on from Wyoming. I have a letter by morning's mail from Joseph. He says that in all his many years on the Plains, he never saw so fierce & terrific a blizzard as they had there on the 15th, the day he wrote. I have not ridden today, save to the post office. Hon. George Ross died yesterday. He was a Trustee of the Norristown Hospital, a fine lawyer and a good honorable man. Ever since my earliest attendance on Court, the Ross' have

furnished two or more Judges for our Courts. Bucks and Montgomery in my young days were only a single Judicial District.

Palp. only once today.

November 21: Wednesday.

Had palp. soon after going to bed, before 10 P.M. yesterday. I did not get rid of it till eleven, though I took large drinks of water, not quite cold enough, I suppose. My fear of it (the ice water) when alone in the depths of night I suppose makes me do it timidly. Were some one present, I would do it boldly.

About noon, the rain which had been in force since day-light ceased and the sun shone forth. The Thermometer, too, had runs up from 22° yesterday to 38° at noon and at 4 P.M. was at 45°. How comfortable it seemed after the freezing weather of the past two days. So, taking Mary with me, we went to Consho. to attend to some matters. I had several interviews with old friends.

9 P.M. At 5 ½ P.M. went to Conshohocken to see the assessor, in order to have the assessments in my various properties reduced. They have been most exorbitant. Had Jimmy to drive for me. I could not see to do it safely. Indeed it astonishes me to learn how utterly blind I am in even but a moderate dark night. We got home safely at seven o'clock.

Mary has copied "Grandfathers Orchard," a poem to send to Joseph, and has done it very well.

November 22: Thursday.

7 A.M. Slept pretty well considering that I was cogitating what I would do today about several matters. None very important, yet every one somehow of advantage to me if fairly conducted. Tacie & family were of course the most difficult subject. Then the need to attend to the assessments now going on in Norristown and Conshohocken, and as they are triennial assessments, the rate they fix now will continue for 3 years, and I want to have my lots and houses fairly, not exorbitantly as they have been rated. Then again I must collect rent from the Italians, who refuse to pay the full amount, and then comes the renting of brother William's old mansion, Brown intending to move. In addition to all these, how shall I employ the men? And too, how decide in other small matters.

Had one spell of palp. at 3 A.M. in the night.

9 P.M. No palp. all day. Very busy doing what I have spoken of on last page. What happiness to be busy! How wretched people are who have nothing useful to be engaged in. How sadly the mind becomes engaged on self, fearing sickness and unhappiness.

November 23: Friday.

9 P.M. Only one spell of palp. last night at 3 o'clock. Waited half an hour, but it did not cease, so got the water. It did the work at once.

Have felt wonderfully well yesterday and today. Never felt better in all my life. Busy! Busy! Busy! "as a nailer." How rapidly and pleasantly time passes when one is engaged in useful work! No palp. today.

While writing the above rec'd. a letter from Joseph from Fort Russell. They find it bleak and cold there, a great change from Washington, D.C.

November 24: Saturday.

7 A.M. One palp. last night. Waited half hour, then took the ice water. Slept pretty well and am all right now. All the forenoon at Norristown on business. Got some documents from my box in the Montgomery Trust Co.

Afternoon. In Conshohocken looking after assessors to show them how wrongfully they were assessing me.

Had letters from Joseph, my niece Dr. Sarah Dolley, Dr. Charles Thomas, &c. At 8 P.M. when absorbed in reading, was struck with palp. Water checked it.

Death of James Pierce, an old and esteemed friend, a carpenter in the 73rd year of age. [He] ate breakfast last Wednesday, did not feel very well, did not go to work, lay down an hour, got up, came down stairs, fainted & died instantly.

November 25: Sunday.

Slept well enough. Had not palpitation. It is bright and keen this morning. The sun as brilliant as it can be at any time. I did not be [have not felt] sleepy so lay awake, comfortably a good deal of the night, looking forward as well as backward. How many things came into my mind of times past & present! And what plans I laid for management in the future, so that things shall work smoothly and needy friends be helped and secured against corroding anxiety from day to day to get a living. I determined to see to the wants of some and make things comfortable for them.

9 P.M. Wrote a long letter to Dr. Chas. H. Thomas and one to my niece Dr. Sarah Read Adamson Dolley, the first to Phila., the other Rochester, N. York. Just as I had finished the last one, Jawood and Susan came at 10 A.M. and staid until noon. After dinner I went to the funeral of my long time friend James Pierce. This employed me till 4 P.M. There I met many old friends and acquaintances who seemed so glad to see me that it was very pleasant.

It was a large, well conducted funeral of people for whom he had worked as a carpenter, building for them, and it seemed as if all the men and women, for mile around, were there.

After supper engaged in reading and writing until a few minutes before I began to write here.

November 26: Monday.

Last evening soon after going to bed at nine o'clock palp. struck me. I rose, went to the bath room (I had lighted a candle, fearing as I have for a year or two to carry a lighted lamp) and with my new ice plane had shaved it full of ice. Then rose to carry it out, when I slipped, fell and knocked down a box on which the candle had been placed. I falling on the top of all of it, the lighted candle under me. Had I carried the lamp instead of the candle, I would probably have been burned to death. I have for the past two years strictly forbidden Mary in her crippled condition to carry a lamp at all, and I seldom do it. I was in muslin night shirt, and had it been a lamp with coal oil, I certainly would have been enveloped in flames in a moment had the lamp broken and the coal been ignited. Palp. at 10:30 last night.

Did not ride in the carriage today, except to the post office at 9 A.M. Have had letter from John S. Williams, Dr. Jos. K. Corson, Dr. Sarah Dolley, Dr. Detweiler, "Aunt Harriet Foulke," and an invitation to the anniversary of the wedding of Mr. John Dyer &

wife, the latter, daughter of my deceased friend Dr. Cornelius Baker of Norristown, on the evening of Dec. 11th next.

Busy as usual all day. No palp. Gave W. L. Cresson a check for \$35 so that he could go to Pittsburgh and commence selling trees & shrubs for a Rochester Nursery. Gave me a note payable in 3 months. Will he do it?

November 27: Tuesday.

No palp. last night. Slept well enough. Up at 6 this morning. After breakfast took Mary with me to Norristown, saw the publisher about publishing my "Food for Children," my "Inflammation of the Mammary Gland" and "Sumach as a remedy for Chorea." I was to call before going home to get his estimate for 100 copies for each in pamphlet form, and how much for 100 copies of all of them together. Strange to say I never thought about them again until now at 8 o'clock P.M. [as] I began this writing. Home after depositing some money in Bank & other duties, at noon. Afternoon at home, busy sometimes out of doors and at others within doors. No palp. today. Wrote several letters.

Have had a "heater" put in for Tacie. "Will" has left for Pittsburgh to get orders for trees, &c.

November 28: Wednesday.

Three palps. last night, one at 12, one at 3 & the last at six. Had to take ice water every time. Slept a good deal, though the last time I waited nearly half hour before I took it. Susan Lukens and Frannie Day both here to dinner, also little Richard here.

After Susan and Frannie left before 4 o'clock, I sent Jammie Cunningham to Tacie's with a pair of fowls and a two dollar note that she might enjoy herself on Thanksgiving day tomorrow. It has been exceedingly cold and windy today, but I have been pretty well.

While reading the Evening Press at 8 P.M., I was attacked by palp., but I kept on writing and reading and now at 8 ½ P.M., it is still upon me. When it occurs while I am absorbed in mental operations, if I am right still and continue at my work, I can bear it pretty well, and as on such occasions it will frequently be arrested without resorting to the ice-water. I fear or greatly dislike to take so much intensely cold water, as I have to do sometimes three times of a night. I fear that I am "in" for an unpleasant time tonight. Still I will try to bear it patiently and without complaining, knowing how much more many suffer and have no remission of it, while I am well as ever when it has left me.

4 P.M. I brought Hiram and Frannie Yocum from Sp. Mill. Hiram has grown greatly since this time last year. He is now 15 years old.

The men have been getting leaves all day, save that George Baker has been stopping broken places about the barn, where the wind could make the stables cold. Jimmy & self went to Norristown this A.M., did a good many things & were home by eleven A.M.

Three times within as many weeks the right nostril has bled a few drops after putting my finger in it to remove what seemed to be some obstruction there, like a dried seal or secretion. Now for two days, there is a feeling as though I should blow it, because of some thing there which could be easily expelled. This feeling is all the time save a few moments after the clearing it apparently. The secretion too is abundant, will

drop from the nostril directly if I do not blow it. So it goes on all day. When lying, it does not feel so at all.

The Trolley from Barren Hill to Plymouth Meeting. This is Thanksgiving Day, and this morning at 6 o'clock the Trolley Car came whirling up the turnpike road and every 40 minutes all day the trips have cont'd.

Just before eleven o'clock, "Tildy," our woman, Mrs. Matilda Haigh [sic], went in it to Philad.

November 30: Friday.

One palp. last night. Waited half hour for it to leave, but it did not, so took ice-water. I awoken about every hour and a half, yet I soon sleep again and do very well.

The men needed both horses to go to the wood-lot on South Valley Hill, to get some Chestnut posts and rails. I have 3 acres & 7 perches of wood land there. So I staid at home all day and read and wrote, worked & played as I chose. Quite rainy in afternoon.

The Press as usual brings new suicides, murders, divorces, embezzlements, &c., besides Column on Column of laudation of the Princeton & University foot-ball players, or preferably as more truthful, ruffian contestants. Thousands on thousands of lookers-on, or onlookers who have paid from two to ten & more dollars per ticket. I feel that is most demoralizing work, leading to gambling in all its forms.

December 1: Saturday.

A rainy morning. Temp. 36°. Slept well. No palp. We are now started for the winter, what the outcome will have been before the end of it, on the last day of Feb., no one can now say. Many of us will never see it through. We should, therefore, improve our time, be as useful to ourselves and others as we can be without loss or injury to any one.

A young man is writing a book, the history of the families of note, long resident in our County, and I must today, as it is raining, prepare a sketch for him. He has requested it.

7 P.M. Carry Cresson came here, to stay a day or two, this afternoon. Jimmy & self went to Conshohocken this P.M., despite the fact that it has been raining moderately all day and is still at it moderately and is foggy and very wet, the air as damp as possible.

About the Trolley roads in course of construction all around us, see scrap from Conshohocken Reporter of today in back part of this diary.

December 2: Sunday.

8 A.M. Still raining. Slept pretty well, indeed well, only for the usual frequent awakings. Pleasant dreams and a good many different ones, for the different naps.

Wrote a long letter to Jos. & Ada last night just before going to bed, but left it unfinished that I may add something of interest this evening as the letter cannot go until Monday morning. Palp. Had to take ice-water.

Hiram went to the train for Phila. at 4 P.M. Nothing specially note-worthy in the rest of the day. At 9 P.M. went to bed, still raining moderately. Forgot to say that I finished my long letter to Joseph and wrote one to Robert R. Corson, addressed by request to a Firm in Paris, France.

December 3: Monday.

Slept well till 5 A.M., then had palp. Waited a while, but as it did not cease, took the ice-water and was instantly myself again. A beautiful day. As the men took both horses to the wood-lot, I remained at home and employed and comforted myself by reading and writing.

December 4: Tuesday.

9 A.M. No palp. last night, none today. But at 7 P.M. it came. Slept well as usual, quite well by naps of 1 ½ hours, then got up as usual every time to learn the "time of night." It reminds me when I do it, of the "watchman" in Philadelphia away back from 1820 to 1830 and longer. Then the watchman threaded the streets all night and kept up a cry of the hour and state of the weather. This they repeated every hour or were supposed to do by singing, "12 o'clock at night and a cloudy morning," or "a moonlight night, two o'clock," &c., &c.

They were directed to do this under the belief of the citizens that it would be a protection against Burglars. But after years of trial, they discovered that it facilitated the thieves & burglars in operating their vocation. The watchman past the place they wanted to rob, they could go to work at once confident that he would not be around there again till an hour would have passed. So, since that time silence was the rule, and were the police faithful to their trust, it would prove to be better than the noisy way. But how they can and perhaps do pass hours undisturbed on their cots, and the people ignorant of it.

At Norristown in the forenoon. At home in afternoon. A young Canvasser for a Montgomery County History of her prominent families occupied me three hours, in showing him my Genealogical History on all the lines. "The book to cost only (?) \$15.00.

December 5: Wednesday.

A beautiful morning. Therm. 24° F. at 7 o'clock. In last evening record I spoke of palp. that began at 7 P.M. I had just eaten a hearty supper of very plain food, bread & butter, a single poached egg on toast, with coffee. Whether that prevented the ice-water from acting promptly, the palp. cont'd. despite the water till midnight.

At 9 o'clock Frannie Yocom & self took the Trolley Cars at Helen's Door, at Plymouth Meeting, for Phila. The first time I have ridden in a Trolley car. We cont'd. in it till we got to the first station in Phila. County, then changed to a car that whisked us rapidly to Wissahickon station where we got out and walked down the Hill a few hundred yards to reach the Trolley from Manayunk, awaiting us; took that to Phila. where Ridge Av. (which we were on) crosses 10th St., then down tenth to Arch and down Arch to 7th St. where we got out and walked back to 712, to Gutekunst's and got a dozen photographs which they had finished for me. Then walked down 7th to Chestnut, then down Chestnut to Farmer's & Mechanics Bank below 5th St. Did what I wished to do there, then went to 138 S. 4th St. to the office of the Beaver Branch Coal Company, where I got \$15.84, being 2 cents per share on 792 shares of the stock of the company, which is not interest but to be considered as so much paid of the principal. After that took the Arch St. car at 4th & Arch up to Arch and 12th where we took the train to Wissahickon. From there came by Trolley on Ridge Av. by way of Germantown Road from Barren Hill

to Plymouth Meeting and then walked home, which we reached at 1:30 P.M. pretty tired. Dinner awaited us. Since then I have rested, save going in carriage to post office. Did not read much before going to bed because of my liability to dream of what I have read, or done in the evening. It is now bed-time and I am ready to be off.

December 6: Thursday.

7 A.M. Temperature at 26. A frost that seems almost like snow on the ground. Slept well. No palp. since midnight of Tuesday.

9 A.M. Went at 9 A.M. to Norristown, taking George Baker with me to do some repairs at Marshall St. House, which is now rented to another man. Got home at noon.

Staid at home all the afternoon. Had Geo. Baker making fence at Godfrey lot, James gathering leaves for litter. I know leaves are useful to the ground as a protection in winter, but as they are of great value as bedding for the horses and save me about 3 tons of straw that will bring me \$12 per ton, I prefer to gather them now, as in doing so, it saves the need to rake them off in the spring.

December 7: Friday.

9 P.M. Slept well, very well until 2 A.M., then palp. Waited an hour perhaps; did not leave, so took ice-water and it left at once. Went to bed, was there but about 10 minutes when it returned. I bore it for a long time, an hour at least. It stopped its tumultuous gait and I was greatly pleased that I had borne it., but lo! In a quarter of an hour or thereabouts it returned and battered away till 5:20 A.M. Got up at 6:30 in my usual health and feeling pretty well. What a blessing that the moment the palp. ceases, I am so well.

Jesse Rush, being long time afflicted with shaking palsy and having nobody to care for his horse and no use for him, sent word to me that he wished I would take him, as he could not afford to keep him, that I could have him for nothing. Horses are a great drag. Many are given away, rather than the owner having the expense of keeping them all winter. I agreed to take him, take good care of him, for the occasional use of him, which would be very seldom, not having (any) much for my own two horses to do, and any time that they can sell him, they should do so, or if I should keep him all through the winter and be able to sell him in the Spring, they should have every dollar of the money.

At 4 P.M. I took Jimmy with me and brought Jesse Rush's horse on the conditions stated above. He seems a very smart little horse.

I have been wonderfully busy today. Twice in Norristown on various kinds of business, and also had direction both afternoon & forenoon, directing my two men repairing things at the Marshall Street House and the fences & yards, &c, so as to have it in order for the new tenant expected there next week. Did not get home until dark.

Have now at 8 P.M. just paid a Bill to Harry Lees of \$51.41 for putting a new "Heater" in Sandy Street House for Tacie. In doing that I have overdrawn account about 30 dollars, which I don't like. Tomorrow morning I will go to Norristown & see if Ellwood can let me have that much, as he owes me more than \$300.

December 8: Saturday.

Palp. at 10:30 last night. Took the water. Feel pretty well, good sleep by naps of 1 ½ hours each till morning.

Took Geo. Baker with me to Norristown this morning early to finish an item or two and see how we will take down a large poplar tree, a very large one on a neighbor's ground, that threatens to fall on my house. I got \$30 from Ellwood and \$30 from John J. Corson and deposited so as to still have a balance there after every check is paid. Home by one P.M.

December 9: Sunday.

Had palp. once last night at 10 ½. Slept pretty well. Have had but little, almost no cough for a week or more.

This morning a spell of palp., but taking an oz. of "Malatine [Maltine]^{xii} with Coca Wine^{xiii}," it went off at once, but it so often suddenly and quickly leaves that I will not yet attribute it to the dose of Maltine & Coca Wine. But today about noon I had it again. Then took the same sized dose and in two or 3 minutes was well. So if it should come tonight, I will try it before using the ice-water.

Staid at home all day. It was rainy. Frannie Yocom went back with Jay and Susan who had come up at 10 ½ A.M. and went back at twelve.

I have read a good deal, have been pleasantly engaged with my minerals and cleaning up things in the office.

Have written a letter to niece Ida Corson who resides in Washington and suffers from Neuralgia, advising her as she is very anxious to be with her sister Helen at the old home, but fears it will aggravate the disease to come on. I have, I say, written to her that I have long been convinced that neuralgia persons should use the limbs as soon as they possibly can do it, the motion of them, especially of the joints, is indispensable.

December 10: Monday.

Raining as usual, but the men went to "Uncle William's" Main St. House to give the cellar and yards a good cleaning. Afternoon I went to see how they were doing it. Oh! what a horrid condition the cellar was in, old porter, & urine bottles by dozens, old tin cans by scores, water some inches deep in several holes and low places, and all so dark that I could not make my way without a lighted lamp or candle.

December 11: Tuesday.

Slept poorly before midnight. At 3 A.M. had an attack of palp., waited a while, then took 1 oz of Maltine with Coca wine. In about two minutes the palp. ceased. This is the third trial, and all successful. It is surprising and I hope it will prove to be as invariably efficient as is ice-water.

Rainy day, and I at home till 4 P.M. Had a spell of palp. at 8 ½ o'clock, said nothing, wrote on, was writing letter for half an hour nearly. It is 9 P.M. now and I have just taken a dose of the "Maltine with Coca Wine." It does not arrest it, so I will go to bed, perhaps a little time will prove its value. Good night.

December 12: Wednesday.

Noon. After going to bed last night, I waited half an hour, or there abouts, for the action of the Maltine and Coca, but the palp. went on. I then got up and took the ice-water. It did the work before the tumbler was away from my lips, lay down again. In a few minutes the palp. returned. Waited quite a good while, then took the ice-water.

Again I was instantly well. Slept after that several hours and awakened with palp. on me. Again took the ice-water, cold as cold could be made without freezing. Again it was quickly successful and I slept from 5 A.M. to after seven. Dressed, took breakfast, read the morning paper a while, and palp. came at 9 ½; cont'd. to read nearly half an hour as when I do so, it soon goes off, sometimes has. It did not, so took the water and it ceased. At 10 ½ I lay down not undressed and slept some before dinner. While as well as usual now, I do not feel very brisk. Will take no more of the Maltine & Coca but rely on the water.

December 13: Thursday.

Had a spell of palp. last night, but the water did its work well. Has been a bright day but yet not freezing. Concluded not to expose myself to the keen wind if not needed to ride much.

Attended at the house, but did not go to the church with the funeral folks at the burial of Joseph C. Righter's widow. Joseph died a couple of years since. He was the son of John Righter and his wife Betsy, daughter of Stephen Legaux, a French surgeon & physician who for many years resided on the Spring Mill Vineyard property of the Vineyard Co. of Phila.

Mrs. Righter and her husband were among my earliest patients and cont'd. with [me] until their deaths in old age.

Many letters and papers today. Sent Hydrophobia pamphlets to "N. York Medical Journal," to "Troy Times" and to "Chicago Tribune."

Two spells of palp. during the day, but both left after I had waited about 20 minutes and was getting the ice-water ready.

December 14: Friday.

Palp. spells three times last night. Bore all of them for a while, and after a time got up and was busy getting my ice-water ready and in that way, two of them suddenly stopped. But why say suddenly, they always stop suddenly, no gradual declining. The third time I had to take the ice-water. Temp at 40° this morning. Took Mary with me to Charles Stout's this morning on a business matter.

A long letter from Thomas Adamson, my nephew. In looking through some of the old shallow drawers in the mahogany upright set of drawers today, I found a letter from me written at the Maltby House in Baltimore the day after the Battle of Gettysburgh to mother (wife) about Ellwood who was sick at the Maltby House, brot there from Frederick, when he was no longer able to keep up with the Army as it was hurrying on to the great battle field. Also found old letters of my own & Edward's & papers, and one from Susan. I will take care of them. Busy about many things until supper time. After that time wrote to Mr. Thropp & others.

Two palps. today, only one cont'd. so that I had to take ice-water.

December 15: Saturday.

No palp. last night. Slept well though up six times and down stairs twice. A lovely morning. "The sun looks grandly over all."

Looking after all the little things needed to be done before the hard freezing weather comes. Had both men thus engaged. At Consho. in the afternoon to see Susan and Esq. Smith, &c.

When I got home at 5 P.M., "Tildy" told me she was going away for a short time, that she would be home tonight, that Mary Cunningham would see to have supper ready. Then she went. On inquiring of Mary Cunningham, she told me that Tildy was going to Phila. in the Trolley Car. Just after dinner James Cunningham, Mary's father told me he wanted to go away about 4 o'clock. So I put the two together, but I could hardly feel that it was right to suspect that he was going with her to Phila, but on asking Mary where her father was going, she said to Phila. with Tildy. For some time I had seen a growing intimacy in them, but he is married and has one daughter married, and a number of others down to one of 2 years old. I could not assure myself that their intimacy was any thing harmful. But I determined as she had taken the kitchen-door key with her, to know at what time they would reach home. It was eleven o'clock. 10 minutes later, his daughter Mary, our Mary and myself all staid up till she came. Queer in these two people. What will come of it?

December 16: Sunday.

After sitting up so late last night, slept pretty well though having the usual interruptions by getting awake & getting up, until five A.M. this morning. Had 2 palps. though, one at 12:20, the other at 5 this morning.

Went to Friends Meeting at 10 o'clock. I am punctual to the time when I go to Meeting. Many members are in the improper habit of being late. It so happened that Joel Lare [Lair], the preacher, opened his discourse on that subject, referred to it as annoying and always a disturbance to members who were early in attendance.

Palp. struck me while in Meeting. Sat still till it closed, then got my carriage & started for home. It went off before I got there. Remained at home in afternoon. Palp. before bed time.

December 17: Monday.

9 P.M. Palp. last night at 5 o'clock. Water efficient. Twice palp. today but in both cases, left after being with me a short time, also once in which the water had to be used. Rode to Consho. lot and to Godfrey lot to see how my men were getting along with the work I had directed them to do.

December 18: Tuesday.

Twice awakened last night by the attacks of palpitation. Had to take water. Lost considerable sleep, very well this morning and indeed all day. Nothing unusual in my movements. Had a most grateful letter from daughter Tacie for what I did for "Will and her dau. Carrie and herself. It was an excellent letter and worth more to me than all the money given to them. Her husband is doing well in getting orders for trees at Pittsburgh, sent her \$10, which shows that he has really done something. He is to have \$20 for every order or all orders amounting to \$25. He has only been at it two weeks.

In intervals of leisure from business, I have been at my minerals, a very agreeable employment to me. Away in the carriage for a brief time in forenoon and in afternoon.

December 19: Wednesday.

7 P.M. Only one palp. last night, one spell of it, I mean, the water did its work. Had a beautiful Alderry cow brought home this morning, much against the wishes of Tildy.

After I went to the P. Office, she told Mary she would not take any charge of her milk. So I said to Mary should she refuse, I will discharge her instantly. Nothing more has she said since. I wish she would refuse. I would have a new woman here & have her away.

I brought daughter Frannie Day from Spring Mill, 10:42 train there. She went down this P.M. at 4:45. I took her to the train.

Not giving a great deal of milk, her calf having been away several weeks, she [the cow] may not be cheap at \$40, but she is not too cheap at \$30. The other \$10 I freely give for her beauty.

Have scarcely read any thing today, or done any writing, as I was entertaining Franny.

December 20: Thursday.

9 P.M. Palp. spells six times last night. [As a] result had to drink ice-water five times and lost much sleep. Have not had a spell today. Started about sunrise to Norristown with Geo. Baker to get paint for him to paint Marshall Street House, then went to the Hospital for Insane to see Dr. Bennett. Went through a few wards & then to Hannah Corson's office. Staid there perhaps 20 minutes. She is the Supervisor under Dr. Bennett of all the female insane, about eleven or twelve hundred now. Hannah is now in her 67th year, I think she said. I got her the situation many years ago. Gets a good salary, and her health is greatly better than when mantua-making. Has a beautiful office.

Came from there to the ice-man's, got a large piece, then home before one P.M. Follen's widow came in the Trolley cars to pay us a short visit. Wonderfully pleasant; brot Mary a Christmas present, which Mary says she "will not open until Christmas morning. At 4 P.M. I took her in my carriage to the Trolley car at George Keys'.

One of the loveliest days of all the year.

The daily number of murders, suicides, embezzlements and frauds. How strange that they should be every day!

December 21: Friday.

Went at sunrise with the man, George Baker, to my Marshall St. House, to have many little repairs made and to have a proper color'd paint selected for the outside. Then went into the town to do needed things. Home by one P.M.

Afternoon. To Consho. to get rent from Italians, but found they had moved two weeks ago. They had paid rent in advance.

Carrie Cresson & Anna came today. Had letters and wrote some. Beautiful day with Therm. above forty. Had two palps. last night. Am not now troubled in the day time.

December 22: Saturday.

Thieves tried to get into the house last night. When Jimmy came up to "make the

fires” at 7 A.M., he saw the middle window, or panel of the bay window, up to its greatest height, came in and told me. The rubbers or burglars rather, had forced it up so hard as to tear out the screws that held the window sash down but were stopped when they got in by the barred door that opens into the entry. Then, or perhaps before, they, I found had been trying with a Jimmy or a chisel to open the shutters in the front parlor, under or on the piazza. They shined [sic] one of the shutters lightly, but failed to open them.

They may have been frightened off by my being up and raising the window, a thing often done by me at night. Last evening before going to bed and while writing letters, the palp. struck me, but I cont’d. my writing for nearly half an hour. Then went up stairs, took ice-water, which drove it off, then went to bed. In a few minutes it returned. I bore it for just 55 minutes, then it suddenly left but in less than ten minutes came again and staid just an hour. So I was up at 10, then at eleven and walked around. Again after these spells, was up at 12:15, 1:25, 2:30, 4, 6:30. On one of these occasions I heard a single hard knock so took the candle, opened the window directly over the bay-window, looked out for stars, and soon shut it and went to bed. On one of the other occasions I lit the lamp, candle I mean, and went down stairs to see the fires and to sit by the warm stove a short time, which I often do. May I not have disturbed them?

December 23: Sunday.

9 P.M. No palp. last night after bed time. Up early, wrote a letter or two and was busy about my books till 10:45. Then went with Mary to take dinner with Jaywood Lukens and Susan. At 4 P.M. returned.

Thomas Hovenden and Helen came after tea and spent the evening with us. No palp. all day. Have read but very [little]. Jay gave me a present, a spirit Thermometer. It will be valuable to me in that I can avoid keeping my bed room too hot.

December 24: Monday.

Was busy, up at the Marshall St. house and with several matters in Norristown. Had Mary with me to get a few moderate priced Christmas presents. Home by noon. Towards evening I felt quite wretched. It increased until in evening I was quite weak and languid. It then occurred to me that I had not taken my small dose of anodyne or even the Tonic Quinine, Iron and Strychnia, for 36 hours. So I took a dose and got much relief.

December 25: Tuesday.

Christmas Day. At home all day. Was invited by the Hovenden’s to dine with them, but declined, wished to be alone. Had one spell of palp. last night. Up seven times, yet felt pretty well and fell asleep quickly.

Walter Corson & his brother-in-law Warren Poley came and spent an hour with us.

Wrote a letter to Joseph, one to Frannie, one to Jesse Holmes, Mineralogist at “George School” and one to Dr. Gable, Ch. of the Legislative Committee of the Pa. Medical Society.

December 26: Wednesday.

Slept well last night as I did not go to bed until eleven o'clock nearly. Went at 9 o'clock to Norristown to see how my painter is coming on. When half way there palp. struck me. I called at Tacie's, but did not take ice-water, but went on to John Corson's and took a tumbler-full, but it was not real cold, and it did not check it. So I came home with it on me all the way, and just after getting out of the carriage it passed off.

After dinner Jimmy and myself went to Spring Mill for Aunt Harriet and her trunk. It was quite cold with a sharp wind north west. In the early evening it began to snow.

Tildy and her son went in the Trolley to Phila. He to go to the College and she to return in the Trolley before bed-time.

Wrote and sent a letter to Joseph.

December 27: Thursday.

9 A.M. Ground with snow and the wind easterly and strong. I will not venture myself away from home today. The woman, Tildy did not get home last night. There was such a big snow, at least was windy & snowy. This morning Carrie Cresson is to report at the Episcopal Hospital in Philad. to begin her probation month.

How ardently I hope that it may be the beginning of a useful and profitable vocation. It has been a surprising one to the Trolley people. They were not prepared with snow fixtures, brooms, &c., to keep the snow from front of the car-wheels, and they were stopped in all directions. Our woman was in the Trolley car, two hours getting from Roxborough (from 10 till 12 o'clock) to Hitner's School House, then had to stay the rest of the night at the brick house opposite.

December 28: Friday.

9 P.M. Slept well. No palp., or at night only one. I raised up in a sitting posture, then flung myself down violently on my left side. At once it was gone and the heart beating calmly and regularly as is its wont.

Snow covering the ground about 3 inches in depth. Therm. at 12° and all day at 14°. It will be very cold tonight.

Some Barren Hill Lutheran Church people here asking for money, or old clothes for the Nebraska Sufferers. Gave \$2 and promised to look what old clothes I can spare. Pretty well all day. Susan was here a short time. Has seemed like Sunday all day. Did not ride any where.

Though well and pretty comfortable, the infirmities attendant on old age are with me and indispose me to exertion. When the weather will permit my riding about, I feel strong and comfortable. Well! I suppose as I go on the infirmities will thicken around me and I shall become a bother to some body, should I continue here.

Mailed several Hydrophobia papers to my friends, and to Editors & others..

December 29: Saturday.

Very cold, 5 degrees above zero. Slept well last night until 5 o'clock this morning, then had a palp., bore it nearly an hour, then got up and got the water. Fearfully cold it was, so it stopped it at once. Went to bed and in twenty minutes had another attack, resorted to the water at once with instant effect.

Sent several pamphlets away today. Am invited to the wedding of Charles Brook's daughter at E. Orange, N. Jersey on Jan. 8th/95. Have just written to them my regrets at not being able to attend, also sent pamphlets on "Hydrophobia" & on "Recognition of Women Physicians."

Nine P.M. Therm. all day under or about 14° F. Did not leave home. Sent some of my pamphlets to College of Physicians of Philad. and to Pa. Historical Soc., Phila. No palp. today.

Have had a letter from Carrie Cresson who has been but two days at the Episcopal Hospital, only one day when she wrote. She says she has worked hard, never before knew what work was. It is the roughest kind of work, and from her writing to me so quickly and regarding her work as so rough & hard, I have a slight fear that she may not hold on, though I never have felt well about the situation, and even the work after being "trained." It seems to be hard, responsible and humiliating. I probably will write to her this evening and not discourage her, even if I should not urge her to try to like it. Says she has a nice cosy room and a pleasant room-mate.

December 30: Sunday.

Therm. not quite so low as yesterday morning, only 14° this morning, 8° yesterday. Had fire made in big entry stove. That has been very comfortable since. Up stairs it is felt too.

Have read Friend's Intelligencer & Journal from beginning to end. Jay & Susan then up here before noon as usual. Therm. at 32° at noon. Jay had nothing new, nor had Susan. Prepared for bed at 9 P.M.

December 31: Monday.

Last day of the year 1894. Therm. at sunrise 22° F. Sent letters with New Year greetings to Mrs. Dr. Henry H. Smith, Prof. Alfred Stillé and Prof. Traill Green, M.D. Sent pamphlets to "Pa. Historical Society," College of Physicians" of Phila., "Phila. Press."

Slept well, but feel dull and weak this morning. Took my med. 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. At 11 A.M., just after having an attack of palp., took some water, cold, but not ice cold; did not stop it. So came down stairs and as dinner was ready, took it and just as I finished, the spell left me. Since that, having taken the medicine, I have felt very well and have written several letters, one a reply to a Mrs. E. A. S. Corson of De-Land, Volusia, Florida, widow of Joseph Corson, my Cousin of Great Valley, Chester County, wishing to know where the Corsons belonged before coming to America.

Wrote to Bertha an invitation to a "reception to be given by Montg'y Co. Med. Soc. January 8th in Bruce's parlors from 4 to 6 P.M., wanting Frannie Yocum and Bertha to it with me, but if Bertha don't care to go, then Georgie Yocum, or Bertha Day to come with Frannie.

10 o'clock P.M. I had prepared for bed at 9 o'clock but something presented itself as needing to be done, so went down stairs to accomplish it. It is now done and I ready for bed. As I passed the entry stove, I poked at the fire in it, and it was only ashes, save a handful of coal in the middle, so I fixed it as well as I could before I left for bed.

Midnight, down stairs. The Year 1894 is gone. I have borne it better than at this time last year I anticipated.

Whether I shall be alive at this time in 1896 [sic], no one knows, nor does any one know what his own condition will then be. Of course, young and middle aged people have a better prospect of continuance here than I have. Of the change from life to death I have no fear, as regards my future. No fear of Eternal punishment. I only regret that I shall then be cut off from the enjoyments of this life, of which I have had many.

1895

January 1: Tuesday.

The first day of the New Year, 1895. I am feeling weak, but yet am pretty well. Had palp. before going to bed last evening, again at 11 o'clock and this morning at seven o'clock. The last went off without taking the ice-water.

Therm. ranged from 14° up to 22°. The men are filling the ice-house, Ice about 8 inches in thickness, 2/3^{ds} of which is mixed with snow and hail, but is solid as --- [illeg.] almost, and dry to handle. I am feeling very weak and miserable, but without pain or suffering in any other way. Took a ride in the sleigh, with Jimmy as driver to Barren Hill and Spring Mill on business. Went to bed under a fear that I would not be able to sleep even as well as usual.

January 2: Wednesday.

Weather a little more moderate, but no thawing even in protected places with the sun fair upon them. Spent a rather better night last night than I expected. I have no desire to read or to write, not much appetite but can eat fairly well. Have during the last few days written two or more letters, but they were poor ones, I presume as I was dull, stupid and quite limited in my ideas. No palp. last night or today.

This morning rec'd. an interesting letter from Prof. Stillé intended as a New Years-day one. I am writing now at 7 o'clock in the evening. The mail will be here directly and perhaps I may receive some letters of interest, so will pause until it comes.

Letters came. One from Dr. J. B. Walters of Bucks Co. in relation to my Hydrophobia pamphlet. Agrees with my views. Letter from Frannie Day saying that Charley, her son, will be here tomorrow. Notice & invitation to funeral of Anthony J. Righter. Calendar from Wm. C. Newport.

January 3: Thursday.

Good sleighing though there is very little snow, but the extreme cold and the iciness of the roads combine to make it good sleighing.

I brought Gd. Son Charley Day up from Spring Mill, though I had a fearful fall on the ground the day before. My feet flew from under me quick as lightning, but fortunately I fell on my buttocks and thought it seemed as if my head had almost been jerked from my body and my left hand was lacerated somewhat, yet I feel pretty well today, save that when going over the rough parts of the road, I felt jerks of the same kind in light degree as after my fall. How thankful I am that I escaped so well.

9 A.M. I rec'd. a New Years greeting by letter from Prof. Alfred Stillé, M.D. For some years we have carried such greeting on between us. Feel weak, have had two palps. since midnight.

9 P.M. Letter from Joseph and others.

January 4: Friday.

The mornings mail brot a New Year's letter from my friend Prof. Traill Green of Easton. It gave me comfort as did Prof. Stillé's. Nearly every letter that I receive contains congratulations and wishes for my health and happiness to be cont'd.

9 P.M. Have deposited \$91.00 in Bank, and taken out of it \$17.50 on another check. Today I have paid every small bill that I owe, save one for stuff for Joseph's Kelly House. Still have a sum in Bank, about \$3 or 400 dollars in John's hand, and \$500 awaiting my order in Montgomery Trust Co. So I need not complain of need for funds. Palp. twice today.

I am not bright and quick of motion as usual, but hope to be better soon.

January 5: Saturday.

At midnight I was awakened with a pain in my left side. The same kind of neuralgic pain I have had in the same spot hundreds of times during my ninety years of life. It was very sharp and cutting and I would not cough, or turn in bed, without calling forth a severe pain. So I got up and took a quarter grain of morph. sulphate. Then bore it as well as I could till day-light, when I had a mustard plaster put on and took another quarter of a grain. I came down to breakfast and have been up most of the day, rummaging around, arranging my papers, and attending to such matters connected with pecuniary affairs as needed attention.

It is now 4 P.M. nearly and I have had a repetition of the mustard plaster, &c. Have some heavy dull pain in my right temple near to the outer corner of my right eye.

9 P.M. and ready for bed, after I write here that my Norristown tenant in the Main St. dwelling house (office not included) has agreed with apparent satisfaction to go on as a tenant in the house, at a reduction of \$5 for every three months, making the rent seventy instead of 75 Dols., as it used to be, per quarter year. That and the fact that Mr. Isett has complied with my earnest request to have the large decayed tree the fall of which would have mashed my house on Marshall St., have been real achievements accomplished during the last week by my conciliatory managements during the past week, and have been a real comfort to me.

Jimmy brot daughter Bertha Yocom from Sp. Mill in the sleigh. How healthy she looks, strong too, and active.

I have been pretty heavily under the influence of the half grain of sulph. morph. which I took last night & this morning, $\frac{1}{4}$ at each dose. And what a comfort it has given me! An inch or two of snow that fell last night has greatly added to the before good sleighing.

January 6: Sunday.

Dr. James Rhoades, Ex-President of Bryn Mawr College for girls, dead. This day one week ago he was apparently in good health. Two mornings after that while waiting in the Rail-Road Station to go on the train to Phila., he suddenly fell from his chair and died in a few minutes. He was a good man, as the term goes, a preacher in the Society of Orthodox Friends. His wife was a daughter of Elias Ely at New Hope and well known to me while I was a student there.

Did not go to Meeting, but read much of the Friends Journal & Intelligencer. Had breakfast late. Jay & Susan were here 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 12:00. Lay down after dinner, got

up at 3 P.M. The cold, freezing weather has yielded to warmth & rain.

Have not, at 4 P.M., scarcely my pain, or soreness in my side. I am very anxious to be well enough to send the boxes of minerals to the "George School." My hand in which I hold the pen, soon as I stop & hold it while I think what to write next, my hand sinks and the pen touches the book tracing a blotted mark there.

Have just a letter rec'd. last evening from Robt. R. Corson, now at Mentone [Menton] France. He and wife seem to have a delightful time there. Strange how things go! Had I not studied Medicine there are hundreds of my friends and even my children who would never had existence.

9 P.M. After supper I did a few light things and found myself pretty free from pain in the side, though I had had a palp. and had to take ice-water. But I laid on the lounge after supper and after the palp. got asleep and on getting awake in half an hour, found the pain in my side again and felt miserably stupid and helpless. So took 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. and since then have felt somewhat better. Have written and have rec'd. some [letters] and these acts always induce better feelings in me. Wrote a letter to Robert R. Corson who is in France, at Mentone now.

January 7: Monday.

Melting slowly all night; sleighing pretty well spoiled. Had dull pain in my side all night, and when I turned, or took a breath a little longer than the ordinary careful one, had a sharp catch, but with all slept pretty well. I feel weak and helpless, utterly worn out. I am much protected apparently by pressure over the affected area, a pain [for which] corsets would be a great support.

Sent James to Norristown to make deposits in the Bank for me and to do many other things. My side got to hurting me pretty badly before 10 A.M. After dinner my pain in the side increased and extended under the shoulder blade as it did many years ago. How greatly my friend Jonathan Maulsby suffered from that kind of pain under the left shoulder blade, and how universally it was regarded by physicians as a symptom of diseased liver. So to arrest the increasing pain I took of sulph. morph. 1/4 grain at one P.M. Had taken morph. 1/8 gr. at 9 A.M.

Finished my letter to Robert R. Corson. Wrote to Tacie to take care of Bertie and Frannie Yocom at the reception, if I can not go to it on Wednesday. Also sent her an order to get a new carpet for her dining room from Brendlinger's store. [Took] 1/8 gr. morph., another 8th.

9 P.M. Half hour ago, Jimmy brot me four letters, one from Iowa, Mrs. Joseph Read; one [from] Mrs. C. A. S. Corson, Delane, Florida; Roberts Jr., Consho.; Helen Hovenden, Plymouth Meeting, Pa. Have already answered Isaac's invitation to his house.

January 8: Tuesday.

Spent a pretty good night so far as sleeping was concerned. In the last 24 hours, two bad palps.

So foggy I can not see the Trolley Cars on the turnpike road from Plymouth to City. So, too, it was yesterday. It seems as though the weather is a regulator of morals, so greatly does it change our feelings and our acts.

Poorly all day. Not likely to be able to go to the Med. Soc. tea tomorrow.

January 9: Wednesday.

One palp. in the night. Was awakened by it. Had to get the water. That did the work quickly. I had it already in the Refrigerator. Still, it is a disagreeable thing to rise those cold dreary nights to go to the cold, damp bath room and rapidly drink water so intensely cold. I had taken two doses of Quinine after noon, each four grains, four hours apart and had also taken at bed-time the 8th of a grain of morph. I slept well with the usual intervals, but with a distressing sense of weakness and loss of ambition to exertion.

All this day I have been feeling weak and miserable, though my side is much better of the pain. A plaster (porous one) of some kind that I found in my room & put on made me exceedingly sore. I have really suffered from that. Perhaps it was effective in relieving the neuralgia. Take me all in all and I will be found of small consequence.

The "Tea" of the Med. Soc. was not a great success. Helen went to meet Frannie Yocom & Bertha and took them to Bruce's Parlors. Staid half hour and then the girls left for home & Helen to her home. I was not well enough to go.

January 10: Thursday.

At home and very uncomfortable all day., so weak and stupid, and neuralgic pains on both upper parts of the chest.

Daughter Frannie Day was here during a few hours. Much interest in the fact that Boice Penrose, a popular Phila. politician had been defeated in his candidacy for the Mayoralty of Philad. by the charges of gross immorality made by clergymen and the women leaders in morals and in philanthropic labor. It is a grand victory for the honest people.

January 11: Friday.

Rec'd. a most affectionate and complimentary letter from my friend Dr. Oscar H. Allis of Phila. last evening. For a few hours before going to bed last night I had pain in my right breast, just under the collar-bone, which increased so as to preclude long breathing without pain and soreness. All night it gave me some uneasiness and left me much awake. But this morning after a pretty heavy perspiration induced after 4 o'clock by excess of bed clothes in a warm room, I feel much relieved.

9 P.M. All day there has been a sharp strong East Wind, though not very cold, and I have kept "close house." The Press has much interesting political news, showing the "three inwardness" (Preacherism) of the scheming politicians, scheming not for the improvement of laws or the benefit of mankind but for place for self, by defeating the aspirations of others. But an important movement has been begun in New York, by Dr. Parkhurst, a minister, looking into the doings of the Police of the City. For many weeks a Committee appointed at his request by the authorities, I think by the Legislature, has been at work in the matter. Hon. Mr. Lexon is chairman of the committee and Mr. --

--- [empty space] the prosecuting lawyer. Their exposure of the wide spread corruption of those supposed guardians of the city's honor and morals has startled that and other cities. Large sums of money were extracted weekly by the police from the highest to the lowest to protect proprietors of house of ill fame and gambling houses from fear of detection in their business. How safe they were and how safe the lewd members of churches and other highly respectable men were from public exposure when protected by these police so largely paid by the proprietors, and who were notified, previous to a

raid, by the very men who were to raid them, so that they could be prepared to show clean hands on part of the proprietors, the nightly inmates having disappeared while the raid was suspected or was on.

But circumstances have turned up as the Com. from its beginning on the move shadow of evidence, has unearthed unheard of corruptions on the part of the very heads of the police force. Other cities are awakening to the need of like examinations.

With the Newspapers and almost daily presents of New Books from friends and publishers and medical pamphlets from the profession, my time is fully occupied.

January 12: Saturday.

Poorly all day, but up and about the house and really could not when asked what ailed me, point to any pain, or fever, or even other discomfort than weakness and a frequently repeated hard cough, continuing some times thirty or more times before I raised any phlegm. But soon as I did, I would have relief from the cough.

Drizzly, rainy weather, with snow occasionally.

January 13: Sunday.

A worrying night. Was not very uncomfortable but slept almost none till bed-time, after that slept an hour or so at a time. Had palp. at 3 o'clock, and from having exerted myself so that my heart was going at a most terrific rate, I took the water while in that condition unsuccessfully, and as I felt afterward at the peril of my life, I then went to bed and staid there until the heart came down in its beats to the lowest rate, from 130 to 140. Then I took water again and it went off instantly.

I was so nauseated that I could not take but little food at breakfast, and after that was in bed or on the lounge nearly all day, indeed I may say the whole time save an hour and half when Jay and Susan were here. It is now 5 P.M.

9 P.M. Thomas Yocom & Frank Bacon, the latter sister Hannah Foulke's son, came & staid a couple of hours before dinner.

Have been very weak and nearly all the time lying in bed or on the lounge. I have taken no medicine or Tonic now for almost 24 hours and am trying to hold on to see whether the absence of those small doses, only amounting to $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. in 24 hours has or will have perceptible effect. Towards evening my nephew Dr. Ellwood & son Livingston came to see me. Took a little oat meal for supper and bore up as well as I could till bed-time. Now off to bed.

January 14: Monday.

I struggled along in bed without taking any medicine hour after hour very uncomfortably until 3 A.M., then I could stand it no longer, or rather thought there was no use in doing so. So took $\frac{1}{2}$ of an eighth of a grain of morph. and one tea spoonful of Paregoric, which became absolutely necessary to restrain my bowels, which much to my surprise and discomfort necessitating a change of clothes. Then it was that I could not resist the needed medicine. So took it and was enabled to sleep quite well till morning. Up at 7:40, took a mere bite for breakfast, then concluded to begin my old plan of medications again. It is not yet nine o'clock.

Noon. Since writing the above, I have been to Mr. Hovenden's to see Helen. She told me the store keeper had fermented cider. I had told [him] how I longed for it to

see if it would not take the bad-feeling from my mouth and increase my appetite, or at least remove the nausea which so annoys & weakens me. So, I got a quart; it was what he had been selling for making of mince-pies. I will take a wine glass full or thereabouts before each meal, possibly one after it, too.

Have a notion to go to Norristown after dinner. It will not do for me to stay in the house all the time.

7 P.M. As Dr. Ellwood Corson, my nephew said he would be to see me today, I waited for him till 3 ½ P.M. when he came bringing me "stomach tonics," I will call them as they are remedies for dyspepsia. After he left, I went to see my nephew George Corson, at Corson's Station, a fine man who has been sick for a few weeks, but who is now well. It was cold riding, but the distance was short and after quite an interesting talk with himself & his charming wife, I returned much invigorated apparently.

I have taken a quarter of a grain of morph. since morning, in small doses, and that and the cider probably have had the largest claim on the improvements.

Supper is now over and I am feeling pretty well. Writing is rather pleasurable. It has not been so for the last 10 days. Think I will write a couple of letters. Very ugly insinuations are afloat all over Norristown in relation to the too frequent visits of a former Director, Trustee, of the Hospital for the Insane in reference to his almost daily visits to the lady physician of the Hospital, my dear friend. It is not confined to Norristown but has spread abroad rapidly because of the high standing of the physician. It would be so disastrous to that excellent woman, should it go on longer, that I feel that I should see her at once and have his visits stopped. And yet how I shrink from the undertaking, and how I fear that my interference may be regarded as an obtrusive interference with what is no business of mine. What shall I do, take counsel with Judge Stinson and Dr. Ellwood? Yes, that is what I will do.

John Slingluff, once a Trustee, continues his visits many times a week, goes through the wards, and acts as if he were still a Trustee, and once every week goes with his carriage and takes the chief female physician to his home to tea and brings her back quite late at night.

January 15: Tuesday.

9:30 A.M. Slept pretty well last night. The mail brings me a letter from Carrie Cresson. She is quite pleased with her work, hard as it is. She hopes she will be accepted.

I now have quite as much medicine and food and drink (cider) as I can use. Ellwood's Dyspeptic tonic, his sterilized milk food, &c., &c., and as I intend to increase my morph. a little, say instead of a quarter in 24 hours, a quarter and an eighth.

In the afternoon I ventured to go to see Susan, thinking I could perhaps & could get home before Ellwood would reach here. Was away less than an hour and on my return found Sam'l. Tyson and wife awaiting me. We had a fine social talk of an hour, & I seemed quite straightened up. Was pretty well till bed-time. At eleven P.M. got palp., got up, took ice-water. It went off, got asleep directly. Before 2 A.M. had palp. twice more. Had to take ice-water every time, and though that soon arrested the palps., I was very miserable. Still I soon fell asleep and had several naps before getting-up time.

6 P.M. Has been snowing and raining all day. Frannie came at eleven o'clock.

Went for home at 4 P.M. All day I have been very poorly, just weak and some bad spells of coughing.

8 P.M. I was just throwing the Norristown Afternoon Herald from me after reading it, when palp. struck me as I sat at the table. So I sat still and had the ice-water brot to me from up stairs, as the going up greatly increases the force and frequency of the heart beats and requires, I think, a larger drink of water to arrest them.

I have been distressingly weak and have had several most persistent coughing spells, from a tickling on the left side of the pharynx, this afternoon.

I have pretty nearly come to the conclusion that if I go on weakening as I have for a couple of weeks more, my course will be about through. Well I ought to take it manfully as I have had a good long life and even now am not suffering badly. My affairs seem to be well arranged, the children all pretty well fixed and my friends are numerous and I don't know of an enemy.

9 P.M. Have just finished a letter to Frannie and asked her to send it to Bertha, so that I need not repeat what I have said. For the last half hour, since I had the palp., I have felt real comfortable, whether the palp. had any effect to better me, or whether it came from my mind being engaged by writing here and writing the letter, I can't say, but it is probably due to the latter. Now for bed.

January 17: Thursday.

3 P.M. Slept well last night, with, of course, frequently being awake and up. At 4 A.M. awoke with palpitation of the heart and what had been unusual much oppression. Hitherto the oppression when lying still on my left side was barely noticeable, but last night it became very great before I could get the ice-water, indeed it seemed to me my life was in instant peril. I took hold of the tin-cup which held the ice-water and before I could raise it to my mouth, the palpitation ceased. I soon became well as usual. Went to bed, awoke at 6:30 A.M. with palp., not oppressed as before. Water arrested the palpitation. After the first spell, I took 1/8th gr. morph. in a wine glassful of cider. Felt more able to sit in a chair and read, or write than I have been for several days, not such a persistent, almost irresistible desire to lie on the lounge. Took 1/8 morph. and the small quantity of cider again at eleven o'clock.

Susan came about that time and Dr. Highley half hour later. At 2 P.M. after a nap of an hour, I got James to take me in the carriage down the Ridge turnpike road to Barren Hill, and past the church to the Germantown & Reading turnpike road, home by way of Plymouth Meeting, a good ride, but it has not strengthened me particularly. Concluded to jot down the facts of the ride at once. So the above is the sum of it, save that I called to see, or rather asked after a sick friend and there heard that my friend, or many years patron, Wm. Rittenhouse died yesterday.

January 18: Friday.

3 P.M. Well, here I am still. I had no palp. last night save one spell at 10 o'clock. Slept nearly several times and rose weak and pretty miserable. Was at breakfast. Took no morph. till 2 P.M. when I was expecting Dr. Allis. Soon after taking the 1/8th, Dr. Percy Corson came in and staid till just now. It stirs me up a little to have one come in for a short time and engage me. I expect Dr. Allis will be here soon.

Hannah Bacon has been here since just before dinner. I could be but little with her, and she is just about to leave for Susan's. They have sent the carriage for her.

Susan brought me a bottle of wine this morning. Ellwood brot me a bottle of Matine with Coca wine. Dr. Highley sent me yesterday some Guinness Stout. So I seem to have plenty on hand. I have taken a wine glass full of the stout. Will after this take the Maltine & Coca Wine which I like better.

I am feeling fearfully weak. My legs seem as if they would give way before I can get up-stairs. Still I wander off to the office and barn occasionally and they improve.

January 19: Saturday.

Dr. Oscar H. Allis came at six o'clock yesterday in the Trolley from Philadelphia to see me. He staid till 8:30, had supper and we talked all the time he was here. I felt that it was too much excitement for me and when I got to bed, I could not rest at all. Before then I had been sleeping without the least difficulty for weeks. So, I could not keep my right leg still and turned and twisted, got up and lay down & thus worried on in bed and out of bed until 4 o'clock this morning, when after I had arrested a spell of palpitation, I fell asleep and did not waken until half past seven. I have had breakfast and will now try to get some sleep.

4 P.M. Got no sleep till noon. After dinner went up stairs to bed. Slept nearly an hour I think, but was a good while in getting started. Came down and took 1/8 of morph. and wineglass of Guinness' stout. Then got up, put on my overcoat & cloak and had Jimmy gear the horse to the carriage, but before getting in felt myself too weak to take a ride to Consho. and do or have Jimmy make several calls, as the day is windy and cold and the ground ice & snow. So walked to the school house and took a look at my minerals, then came up to the house almost exhausted before I got to it. Am glad I did not venture to Conshohocken and attempt to do all I intended. I sent the father James.

8:40 P.M. I have kept up as well as possible since supper at 6 P.M., most of the time, though, on the lounge. Never have felt so weak and so convinced that my time here is in all human probability nearly through.

Frannie has been attentive to me all the evening. Very kind she is. Bertha expects to be here tomorrow at 10 A.M. or there about. Tacie and Susan too will perhaps be here. Joseph, dear boy, is so far away that I will not worry him with any account of my weak condition.

My bed-time is nearly here, and I fear almost to go to bed, lest I can not sleep. To lay awake all the night with one leg twitching and compelling its change from place, though the change be never so little is most annoying. My hope is that I may rest better than I did last night. When I think how many good people suffer much more than I do, and are destitute of the money comforts which environ me, I feel that I ought to bear mine without a murmur. It is now five minutes of 9 P.M. and I must try the bed. Whether I shall ever come down stairs another day I cannot say. While on the lounge, I felt that it was as unlikely as likely. Engaged in writing I always feel at my best. The morning will determine it.

January 20: Sunday.

Morning has come to me again and with somewhat of invigoration of body and mind. I began to sleep last night about one o'clock and had three naps between that time

and seven this morning. Had two palps. in the night, one at 10, the other before one I think. It is now after 9 A.M., and I have read some articles in the Friends Intelligencer.

Noon. Jawood & Susan, Bertha and daughter Georgie came about 10 o'clock, and Frannie and "Aunt" Harriet Foulke and Mary were here, so there is quite a group here now.

Isaac Roberts, cashier of the Tradesmen's Bank of Conshohocken and his wife Ruth wedded only a few months ago, and [at] whose wedding I was an invited guest, also called to see me. Isaac has an article entitled Samaria in "Friends Intelligencer" this morning, quite an interesting paper. We had a talk on the tendency of Friends to speak of "God" as a personal Being with human passions and propensities, ready to punish transgressors of laws which they do not, cannot all see alike, and yet they speak of God as a Spirit Who must be worshipped in Spirit and in Truth. I told him of Elias Hicks' view of it, which I heard from his own lips sixty years ago at least, viz., "Every child comes into the World endowed with good and with evil tendencies, in other words, with a good spirit and an evil spirit." We see them manifested in every child, at one time kind, loving, generous, truthful, but at other times cross, spiteful, ready to strike, or harm, disingenuous & mean. Now as we cultivate the "good spirit" not a personal God, the divine or good spirit grows within us and we become more and more filled with it so that we can become Christ-like in our nature. We have the Spirit of Christ and can resist temptations to Evil. So too he regards the erroneous idea of a personal God trying to destroy the souls of men. Instead of that, it is only the tendency to evil, the "Evil Spirit" which we have allowed to take the possession of us, and we are led into evil ways.

I have been pretty comfortable today, having had a good nap before dinner.

5 ½ P.M. Ellwood and son Livingston just dropped in to see me and are now away. It was quite a pleasant visit. Ellwood is very kind to furnish me with tonics and medicines. Have just finished a letter to Jos. & Ada.

9 P.M. Ready for bed, but I almost dread it for fear I shall not be able to sleep until after midnight, and that I would not care about very much if I could lie without being so restless and could keep my limbs (legs) still.

January 21: Monday.

Noon. Had a fearful night mare at midnight. After that had some sleep before four o'clock. After four had 3 spells of palp. before 7 ½ A.M. I was relieved instantly every time by the heavy draughts of ice-water, but it was unpleasant to follow each other with tumblerful after tumblerful, right on getting out of bed and with a heart beating and oppressing me so that I could hardly reach the refrigerator. After a light breakfast I went up to bed and slept an hour, but I had taken ¼ gr. morph. just before sitting to take breakfast and while the last tumbler of cold water, which had been taken but a few minutes before, was felt like a lump of ice in [my] stomach.

I have written a letter on business to Tacie, and some added to Joseph's, but will not send the latter until I can write more cheerfully, if that shall ever happen.

3 ½ P.M. I have had an hour's sleep, but before I got to sleep, in a few minutes after I lay down, palp. struck me. The water had to be taken. After getting to bed again, I got to sleep pretty soon and slept about an hour. Then my left foot got very cold and cont'd. so till I felt it better to rise. Weather hazy, about 32°; ground icy & wet.

It seems pretty hard living along this way but is so much better than the condition of persons quite as desirous of comfort, are yet much more suffering. I must try to be content. What a blessing that the cold water, a remedy so delightful and yet harmless cuts short the palps.

9:20 P.M. Thomas Yocom came up with Jimmy at supper-time and is here now to stay in the front room for me to call upon if I should need any thing in the night. I have taken my Quinine, Iron & Strychnia Tonic, and just now took my first half wineglassful of "vin Mariani" brought to me two days ago, a stimulatory malt preparation. I will go to bed in a few minutes, but whether to sleep well or not [I] cannot say.

January 22: Tuesday.

I had two palps. last night, one at 2 A.M., one at 20 minutes of three. Had to take water both times and in the second spell had to take it twice and then it did not go off, but I laid myself down and it left in about 10 minutes. Then I took 3 teaspoonsful of Paregoric which took away all restlessness and enabled me to get some sleep, thence on to 7:20 when I rose.

After breakfast I went to bed again and had a good nap. When I had the spells of palp. in the night, Thos. Yocom got the water for me, which was a comfort. Susan came at 10 A.M. and brought me a bottle of Home Wine made by her former domestic, Kate. It is good and sweet grape wine. I have had a small dose and it is pleasant.

Noon. At eleven o'clock palp. attacked me. It is still battering away. I have taken the ice-water twice without any effect in stopping it, but I will eat dinner as I feel quite hungry, which has not been the case for two or more weeks.

4 P.M., less 25 minutes. I had a good dinner., a mutton, or rather lamb chop that Susan brot, and four fine oysters that she stewed for me, but the palps. went on. I tried the water five times most faithfully and largely and of the very coldest without other effects than to make my stomach feel like an ice-bag. How strange when it has never before for six years, or more failed for more than a few minutes.

I have just now taken ½ oz. Paregoric & a small wine glass full of Kate's wine, then at once came here to write this. Ah! I feel the jerk in my chest. It is gone, 4 P.M. less 10 minutes. It is entirely away. Thanks to the Paregoric & wine of grapes, the Katenia!

I am greatly relieved in body and mind. Susan has been wonderfully attentive to me. I will, if I get it before bed time, again take another good dose, either of Paregoric, or sulph. morph., perhaps ½ gr. of the latter.

4 ½ P.M. Frannie Yocom has just arrived. So I hope we are ready for the night.

9 P.M. At 4:20 P.M. the spell of palp. began again. I took the water but it had no good effect. So I bore it till 5 o'clock only taking some of Kate's wine, but it went on and at six I sat to supper, ate pretty well, then lay on the lounge and in a few minutes it went off, but soon recurred & again left at 6:30. Have been clear of it since 6:30.

How I am to get through the night no one can say. What to do, whether to take any anodyne, or stimulant I can't determine. Will any how prepare a good dose of say Paregoric, three teaspoonsful, and one teaspoonful of Comp'd. Tinct. Lavender to which an additional quantity of alcohol has been added, making it more stimulant than it generally is.

January 23: Wednesday.

Slept well all night, of course awoke several times. When awake, I had no restlessness. Was easy and comfortable as need be. It was a night of good, sound sleep. Ellwood, when here yesterday, told me of two patients of his in Norristown whom I often meet in the streets and pass friendly greetings, and whom I supposed to be perfectly well, who suffer far beyond what I do, every night, and require a catheter several times daily as well as at night, while I am free from any trouble in that way.

How true it is,

- (1) "If every one's internal care,
Were written on his brow,
How many would our pity share,
Who raise our envy now.
- (2) The fatal secret when revealed,
Of every aching breast,
Would show, that only while concealed,
His lot appears the best."

1:30 P.M. I had a palp. for half an hour beginning at eleven o'clock. The water on 2nd trial arrested it. While it was upon me, I had a visit from Isaac Roberts of Spring Mill. Gave him five pamphlets on Hydrophobia to send to a friend in Salem, N. J., where the people are greatly excited about persons who were bitten by a dog, mad or not they do not know. Here are scandalous charges in the "Phila. Press" against the management of the Trustees in Norristown Hospital for the Insane.

9 P.M. Attacked by palps., lasted till 5 P.M. The Ice utterly failed, has failed for several times to arrest it.

January 24: Thursday.

9 P.M. No palp. last night. Slept well. I have been taking today and yesterday a half claret-glass full of "vin Mariani" after each meal and 4 pills of Quinine 2 grs. each the past two days, besides 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. 3 times a day. Can it be that these things have arrested the spells of palpitation? If so, I will go on with them.

Aunt Harriet went home to New Hope today. Susan came up to see me. Ellwood also came to visit his patient. My appetite has returned. It is a pleasure now to me to eat. I feel strong too, compared with a few days ago.

My "Bill" to confer on Trustees of Hospitals for the insane the entire control of these institutions has been presented to the Senate, by Senator Baker, and he has written to me for the reasons why the change is asked for and whether there is a general concurrence of sentiment among physicians for the change. I have sent him the resolutions of 13 County Medical Societies, also of the Phila. Co. Med. Soc. with its 500 members; also the resolutions of the State Soc. and the fact that this last Society has appointed a "Legislative Committee to memorialize the Legislature on the subject; also the action of the "Board of Public Charities" of the State in favor of the change, &c., &c. Many letters this evening, four.

An Investigative Committee has been appointed by the Legislature to examine the management of the Norristown Hospital and some others. Glad of it. It will show the

falsity of the charges, and the meanness of the two Trustees whom the Gov. would not re-instate.

January 25: Friday.

9 P.M. Have had no spells of palp. for three nights & days. Slept pretty well. Have a good appetite. Can it be owing to the "Vin Tonique Mariani"? and the Quinine? Of the quinine I take 8 grs. per day, of the Vin Tonique half wineglassful after every meal.

Susan has been here most of the day. John J. Corson and Dr. Eisenberg called to see me. Two color'd men, out of work, can not get any, out of money, out of food. Gave them two Bushels of potatoes. Matthew Lewis, who formerly lived with me and who in prosperous times left me, is now utterly without means to even get bread, came to get help. Gave him half dollar.

No palp. today. Feel well.

January 26: Saturday.

8 A.M. Went to bed at 9 P.M. last evening. Slept well. No palp. in the night. Up at 7 A.M. Not a single palp. since 4 P.M. Wednesday. Strange! I take 4 two gr. pills of quinine in the day time, one dose, though not so large as is directed, of the "Vin Mariani Tonique" after every meal, with 1/8 sulph. morph. added.

If what I am thus taking prevents the recurrence of the spells of palp., I will continue to do it, for I feel stronger, have a better appetite and sleep better than last week, when I was weak and miserable. Wrote several letters yesterday and rec'd. a number.

3 P.M. I have had a nap of nearly two hours on the lounge and feel well. Had a letter from Carrie Cresson that she will commence as a pupil on Tuesday next. She will need from 15 to 20 dollars to get several suits of clothes needed. So I have sent her a check for \$20. Should she not need it all, her mother must have the residue. Jimmy has just returned with a letter from Tacie. [She is] somewhat Rheumatic but in good spirits.

A windy, shiver-producing day. I was at the barn a few minutes ago. An interesting sight to see nearly a hundred chickens and two geese. The chickens of every variety of colors gathered around me quietly awaiting and expecting their ----- [illeg.] meal. A lovely group they are. So many yet and we have been using of our stock raised in the summer many, very many.

How sensible nearly all animals appear to be. They have a language of their own and like ours, commensurate with their wants. How responsive too, they all are to kind treatment. Our chickens gather around me without fear, almost lovingly, as I never frighten them.

January 27: Sunday.

8 A.M. Slept well again last night, without a single spell of palp. How strange it seems, now five days and four nights without an attack, and sleep and eat so well. Freezing again this morning. The morning is bright and lovely.

Wrote a long, very long letter to Dr. Sarah R. A. Dolley, my niece in Rochester, N. York. She has practiced there for at least 35 or more years. She was the second woman physician in Pa., was a student of mine.

Have begun my second bottle of "Vin Mariani."

2:40 P.M. After dinner and after I had taken my dose of Mariani, though I had postponed taking 1/8 of morph. until after eleven instead of doing as I should have done, taken it after or just before breakfast, a spell of palpitation struck me at 20 min. after one P.M. In a few minutes I tried the water well, but it failed. So just lay still until 2:30 P.M., when I rose and took ¼ and one eighth Celestial, then walked from the lounge to this table and opened the book to record it, but before I had written a single word, the pulse came back to its daily pace. Well, I am glad it has gone. I think it likely had I taken the 1/8 gr. of morph. before breakfast and the next at noon, with the "Mariani," I would not have had the palp.

3 P.M. As I write, the horses are behind the house in front of the window where I write. It is cold and windy but they are nibbling away very industriously at the dry tufts of grass, and greatly prefer the freedom of the lot in the open air to the pent up stable. I have been so greatly impressed by this truth that I now have them let out whenever it is at all convenient.

9 P.M. After supper I took the Mariani, and that & the increased dose of Celestial, taken just before the spell of palp. went off, stimulated me so that I felt strong and well until now. But I do not like to omit my dose 1/8 of Celestial at bed-time, so took that.

January 28: Monday.

8 A.M. Slept wonderfully last night. Have not had such a sleep for years, owing no doubt to the Celestial taken yesterday afternoon, equal to nearly or quite ½ gr. sulph. morph. My first awaking was at 12 midnight, the next at 5 this morning. A bright, lovely morning. Therm. 20° F. I think I will go to Norristown to get my hair cut.

4 P.M. At 9 A.M. I went to Norristown with James. Stopped to see Tacie, then went to Marshall St. house (now tenantless) to see if it was all right, then to Express Office to send a present to Dr. Oscar H. Allis, the original stethoscope of Laennec, which I bought in 1828. From thence, went to my barber and had my hair cut and whiskers trimmed. That over, made for home, where we arrived at 11:30 A.M.

After dinner at one o'clock, my nephew Dr. Richard Foulke being here to dine with me, I lay on the lounge until four or nearly that, when Dr. Percy Corson came to see me, and he was followed in a few minutes by Dr. George Highley, also a grand nephew, came in. They have just gone away.

8 P.M. After the three doctors left me at 5 o'clock, I cont'd. to be pretty well, indeed very comfortable, sitting in the arm chair (so many years my fathers) until ten minutes of six o'clock when palp. struck me. I at once took ¼ gr. sulph. morph. and wine glass, nearly full of "Vin Mariani" and laid myself on the lounge. In 20 minutes I sat to the table and began to eat a supper of "Scrapel [sic] and cold slaw," &c., &c. Had quite an abundant one. (Some persons would denounce such treatment as dangerous). After supper I walked up stairs slowly, so as not to unduly excite the heart's action, then came down and again went to the lounge, where I staid until 20 minutes of 8 o'clock, when I threw off the clothes, feeling too much oppressed and began to write in my diary. I had proceeded as far as the word "the" on the 7th line, one immediately preceding the large cross, when it suddenly stopped. It was ten minutes of 8 o'clock P.M. I paused a moment to be assured that the palpitation spell was fairly off, then resumed my writing to this moment quite happy that I am free of it.

The evening mail is here and I will look at it.

January 29: Tuesday.

This morning Carrie C. Cresson will begin her first year as a nurse pupil, at 8 Dols. per mo. & Board. I have advanced her \$35.00 during the present month to get clothes & instruments for her work.

It snowed to the depth of three inches last night and now, 9 A.M., has begun again in apparent earnestness.

I slept well last night. Will not take morph., if I can get along without a spell, until noon. Have now at 10 A.M. in my hand a letter from Carrie with thanks for my check of \$20 to get clothes with. She seems greatly pleased with her prospects.

Noon. Took 1/8 gr. & one dose of Mariani before eating. Have been all the forenoon in the house reading, writing and doing small, much needed jobs.

I am very anxious to have all broken chairs and utensils of all kinds repaired, or if they cannot be, then thrown away, or laid away in the barn or shed.

How deeply I regret that the ice-water fails to arrest the palpitations, especially is it matter of regret and unaccountable when it has for six years served me so well, almost without a failure, though many days I had to resort to it several times in 24 hours. It coming as well and as often in night-time as in day-time.

I have read President Cleveland's "Message" to Congress today, issued yesterday. He now seems to realize some of his blunders, and be willing to co-operate with those of both political parties who can agree on some plan to maintain the needed amount of Gold in the Treasury.

It surprises me, since learning what an immense revenue could be raised by a tax on Beer, that he does not refer to it at all as a means of adding to the Treasury the needed funds.

5 P.M. Martha Jones has just left here. Susan, my daughter, was anxious to hear how I am, so got Martha to come up in the sleigh with the man to see me.

9 P.M. Nothing unusual or startling in the "Evening Paper" either from Harrisburgh or Washington where our Lawgivers are assembled and laying plans each one to advance himself in the administration of those whom he regards as "his following." Have not had palp. today. How white and pretty the country looks, covered as it is with the clean, white snow every where. And specially does it seem beautiful on the Evergreen trees, every branch & twig bending under the white burden.

January 30: Wednesday.

Slept well. No palp. Up at 7. Not very cold, only 20° F. How white it seems from the Earth to the Zenith. Snow every where, not a bare place, but very few sleighs moving.

The Press news from Washington leans strongly in favor of the measures suggested by Cleveland, provided for the relief of the present depressed condition of the business of the country, a condition brot on by himself and the democratic party. But as it is upon us now, the feeling in both parties is that whatever measures will relieve us should be embraced without reference to the unfortunate cause. It is as plain to Democrats as to Republicans, the then administration is chargeable for the Nations unhappy condition.

Rec'd. a letter from Miss Adele Biddle thanking me for \$5.00 for the Soc. for Protection of Animals from Cruelty, also a receipt for it from the Secretary. Have no more Mariani, so will try to do without it, taking the Elixir instead.

8 P.M. Slept nearly two hours [this] afternoon. Frannie Yocom went away at 3 P.M. Frannie Day came up with Jammy from Sp. Mill where he had taken Frannie Yocom at 4:20. I staid at home all the day and was busy at many things as usual. Have just had a letter from Dr. Allis thanking me for the present of the old Stethoscope. He will after a while present it to the College of Physicians, where it will be a curiosity. He informs me that Dr. Osler charged a patient for an abdominal operation \$10,000 and Dr. Pepper for three visits to Erie, Pa. \$30,000. I have long thought that while there are many honorable physicians, there are so many more mixed up with them that we have no right to be called an "honorable profession." Men are never honorable if dishonest.

Editor's note: Dr. Allis was likely repeating a rumor with no basis in fact. Dr. Osler was not a surgeon. His specialties were internal medicine and pathology. Dr. Oscar H. Allis was a surgeon associated with Jefferson Medical College.

January 31: Thursday.

Slept pretty well and was comfortable when awake. Up at 7 A.M. Therm. 12° F., not a particle of wind. All a white silence out of doors. Not a sound any where, save the distant one coming from the cut-off rail road, or the Plymouth branch of the Reading road.

No palp. Last night. No spell of palp. since 6 o'clock in the evening of the 28th. Am daily taking $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. sulph. morph. and three half wineglassful of "Mariani."

4 P.M. Just at 1 P.M. I went with James as driver to Charles Stout's to look at his pigs. Before I got a mile on the road, palp. struck me, but I kept on. It held me until I reached home. Then I took to the lounge and lay still for about 15 minutes, when it ceased, and just as it did, my nephew Charles Adamson walked in. He staid about an hour then left for Phenixville [sic] & his home.

When the palps. took flight, I took rather more than $\frac{1}{8}$ of sulph. morph. (Celestial) and $\frac{1}{2}$ wineglassful of Mariani. That was only a few minutes ago.

9 P.M. Wrote letters, read medical journal, &c., &c., since 4 P.M. Palp. once; went off without water.

February 1: Friday.

6 P.M. Had palp. badly at 11 P.M. yesterday, after the attack in the evening. Took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph. and $\frac{1}{2}$ dose of Mariani, afterwards slept well. Had it again soon after breakfast. Then took another quarter. Took $\frac{1}{2}$ wineglassful of Mariani after breakfast, also one after dinner, so have felt pretty well today. Susan & Frannie both here. Frannie went home at 2:25.

Several letters last night. Dr. Garver of Harrisburgh Hospital, whom we elected when I was trustee there 14 years ago, wrote.

Arranged my books, papers, and minerals. Took Frannie to Spring Mill for home this P.M.

February 2: Saturday.

Last evening before seven o'clock I was struck with a spell of palp. Despite an increase of Celestial and of Mariani and of the ice-waster taken copiously, it held on to me until 20 minutes after eleven o'clock in the night, more than four hours.

After the palp. passed off, I felt weak but otherwise not uncomfortable and slept pretty well the remainder of the night. As we were to meet Dr. Jane K. Garver at Norristown depot of the Pa. R. Road at 9:10 A.M., I sent James for her, in the midst of a snow storm, while I made ready to receive her fittingly. Susan by my request consented to come here at eleven o'clock to help me entertain Dr. G. as I cannot very safely talk for hours to a visitor. It is now almost 14 years since we, the then Trustees of the Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburgh, elected her physician to the female insane in that Hospital. "Looking backward," how short a time these fourteen years seem. Then a woman doctor to manage the many insane in a hospital was a new, unheard of thing, and the "Superintendents," as male physicians at the head of the Hospitals were then called, were greatly opposed and predicted all kinds of failures. But I was determined to have women doctors for the female insane, and carried all but one of the Trustees over to my views, and we elected first Dr. Cleaves of Iowa and after a year, Dr. Garver to take her place. What she wants me to do for her now I do not know, but I am pretty sure it is, if possible, to get the chief place in the Norristown Hospital, as there are mutterings of discontent with Dr. Bennett. How I regret there should be cause for it.

Dr. Garver has been here and has gone back to Phila. Was here about an hour. Her visit to me was to get me to use my influence to secure the next two Trustees who shall be appointed by the Governor, to be in favor of giving to the women physicians of Hospitals for the insane the entire exemption from any supervision by the superintendents. To change the views of Trustees, from those impressed on them by Superintendents would be a hopeless task. The only thing to do away with their despotic rule is, to accomplish as soon as possible, transfer by Legislative Acts, of the power now held by Superintendents, to the Boards of Trustees of all the hospitals, the entire control of the Institution. I have the "Bill," which has already twice passed the Senate, in the hands of our Senator Baker and have a faint hope that it may be cared for by him, and that some other Senators & Reps. will engage in its advocacy.

The snow is now, 2 P.M., eight inches deep. 9 P.M. Nothing material since 2 P.M. No spells of palp.

February 3: Sunday.

9 P.M. Slept well last night. Only a single spell and it yielded quickly to the water. Read the Intelligencer & Journal of Friends from cover to cover. Much good reading in it. It is an Education of the strictest Morality. I can not distinguish between the Quakers' "Inner Light" & conscience. Jawood Lukens and Susan came soon after ten o'clock and staid until noon. Bertha Yocom & Dorothea her sister are here, and it is a pleasure to have them. I have been well all day, by taking a little more Celestial than usual. Have written a long letter to Joseph.

Though there is so much snow on the ground, there is scarcely a sleigh to be seen. This is remarkable as it is Sunday & good sleighing.

February 4: Monday.

Soon after getting into bed last night, I had an attack, but as soon as I had gotten out of bed, it ceased. So, for fear that I would be troubled with it again soon, and perhaps several times during the night, I went down stairs and took 1/8 gr. more Celestial. That enabled me to be comfortable and sleep well. It is now 9 o'clock. The girls gone in the sleigh to Spring Mill on their way home, & there is quite a snow storm from the west on hand.

8 P.M. The snowing ceased before noon. At 6 P.M. the Therm. was at 20° F. There is prospect of a very cold night. I have had much to do today to prepare documents and information to Senator Saylor who has my "bill" in charge in the Senate. He asks for all that I can furnish. I have sent so much to the friends of Reform in Richmond and Staunton, Va., and to others in Kentucky, that I have to write my claims for a change anew for Senator Saylor. I also rec'd. a letter from Prof. Jesse Holmes of the "George School," Bucks Co., asking when I will forward my present of minerals. I am therefore greatly engaged, or should be, but I am so apt to have an attack of palp. when much absorbed in my work that I have to relax now and then. But yet I feel these need attention. The bill must have it now, so I am very busy.

Mary is "busy as a nailer," all along embroidering. I purchase them. They are beautiful.

The Bill in the Senate presented by Senator Saylor is the same old one that we have twice passed. He depends on me for the information to support it. So it is always, they know nothing themselves.

February 5: Tuesday.

7 P.M. Just now I have taken a tumbler full of water as cold as can be before absolutely freezing, and it arrested a spell of palp. that struck me five minutes ago. I had just been congratulating myself on feeling so well though I had taken no "Mariani," no Elixir of Quinine, Iron & Strychnia, no Kateani, and only 1/8 gr. Celeste since this time last evening. Have been entirely free from palp. since eleven o'clock P.M. Feb. 1st when I had had it for 4 hours, which equals 68 hours. The spell over, I take 1/4 gr. Celeste.

A good part of my diary seems to be devoted to the spells of palpitation, and an account of my bodily condition, nor is it strange. I know how frail is my tenure of life and how careful I must be if I am to hold on to it, and how useless to myself and others if I cannot be in fair condition.

I have this minute (24 minutes of 8 P.M.) rec'd. from Senator Saylor a letter that states an interview in reference to the documents which I sent to Senator Baker instead of to him. They are lost, Senator Baker fears. He is very desirous to have documents or statements to show the need of such a law as he is asking for, to do away with superintendents.

I will, if well enough, tomorrow write to him what points to urge. It is so plain a case that he should be able to manage it.

February 6: Wednesday.

Pretty well, save that at 3 A.M. I had an attack of palp. I concluded as I had been awakened by it, to let it go on as I was feeling pretty comfortable in bed. So, it kept at it till just six o'clock.

9 P.M. All day I have worked faithfully in selecting from my writings and from the "Transactions of the State Medical Society" facts & arguments to send to Senator Saylor so that he may succeed in passing my "bill" through the Senate. I think I have sent some good material for him, and will now let him work his way as best he can. Palp. again before supper.

Therm. 4° F. below at sunrise.

February 7: Thursday.

Had a comfortable night and no palp., as I took a grain of sulphate [morph.] before going to bed. Feel at leisure this morning, having done for our Senator all that I can do to help him pass the "bill."

Have fixed up all the papers not sent to Saylor, so as to be prepared to furnish persons of other states information needed by them to carry on a war against the rule of superintendents.

I got back from Mr. Starke of Richmond yesterday those forwarded to him months ago, and which he should have returned long ago. Unless my Bill shall be passed this Session, I shall never see it done. I have stuck to the work of Legislation at Harrisburgh. Since I began the effort there to have women physicians appointed to have medical care of the Insane of the sex in 1878 until the present time, 16 years in all, and not yet through the work.

It is this active continuance of the fight, year after year, that has worried the superintendents. They felt confident that the great opposition with which they confronted me during the first session of the Legislature, when Dr. Kirkbride and fifty physicians of Phila. placed their protest before the Senate Committee, that I would abandon the attempt to put my bill again before the Legislature.

4 P.M. Had a palp. soon after breakfast, so for fear of others, took a whole ¼ grain & have been very comfortable all day.

9 P.M. Had not taken any tonic or anodyne all day till an hour ago when I took one grain (in the Celestial form) for fear I would have palp. in the night.

February 8: Friday.

Slept well last night till one A.M. today when I had a spell of palp. Got up and took water but did not, as I thought at the time take [had taken] enough, and as I feared it was not arrested. So, went to bed and as after a few minutes there the palpitations became less violent, and I felt pretty comfortable, I concluded to bear it. It did not cease until after six o'clock when I got up, dressed myself and again took the water and instantly was well. Ugh!! How cold it is! I have all the fires put to their best.

The breakfast is over. Drifts every where, a big one blocks up the outer kitchen door so that the younger Jimmy has to bring whatever we want in the kitchen through the dining room door. The storm still goes on, but as we have got all the rooms well warmed and breakfast over, I will settle myself to read a "Romance of two worlds."

Noon. At eleven thirty, while absorbed in it, I was visited by Mr. Palp., took ice-water & he fled.

9 P.M. After taking 1/8 morph. and a teaspoonful of the Elixir and dinner, I lay on the lounge and took a nap, after which I wrote about my mode of spending the day as I am now doing here, until supper time, after which I again read (aloud) to Mary and

Frannie Yocom from the "Romance of Two Worlds." But I forgot to say that I took another 1/8 gr. before supper. And now I will mix another one eighth grain, take it and off to bed. So I have taken 1/2 gr. in the four doses. Hope that will save me from a spell of palp. tonight. I forgot, no I did not. No mail, no Newspaper, no verbal gossip of a new & exciting character.

February 9: Saturday.

In the early morning, Therm. 4° F. above. This was to me the coldest night in all the rooms of our house that I have experienced yet this winter, yet three nights ago the Therm. was 4 degrees below. But that was a sudden cold, the house had been warm all over when the cold set in at only a few degrees below freezing. Last night the steady cold and north wind had already penetrated into every nook & corner before the night came with a Therm. at only about 6° above. I was warm and comfortable in bed, the room being pretty well heated from the Register, 60° F. at bed-time, & in addition to this I put more clothes on the bed. I rose early and found the stoves all needing coal, so I helped Jimmy with them. It was a big job to get away all the ashes from the three, in the dining room, the back parlor and the big entry stoves. We had them all fixed and strongly underway before Mary & Frannie came down. All night the drifting cont'd. but I slept well and had no attack of palpitation.

I had two of the burners in the coal-oil stove burning in the bath room, and this morning it was very comfortable.

3 P.M. I have had a nap of an hour on the lounge. Mary and Frannie up in Mary's warm room, napping it. I have just been at the road in front of the house. The door opens and Jimmy comes in loaded with the mail of three days. Though the storm is driving on as violently as ever, I mean drifting, no snow falls, and the sun is shining. A son of Ellwood Livezey and John D. Young, the Postmaster, had gone on horseback to try to reach Consho. for the mail. They did reach it but did not get back home until 2 P.M. Letters for me came from Weir Mitchell, M. D., Frannie C. Day, John Conard and Representative J. B. Goentner of our County. It is now 4 1/2 P.M., the sun shines brightly & the wind not quite so fierce as hours ago.

8 o'clock P.M. After eating supper, though I should first notice that for nearly half an hour I had before supper read the "Romance, &c." I read a good deal of the Daily Lancet which really seemed to have scarcely any thing in it that I had already read in the Am. Med. Assoc. Journal and the Reporter. I also gave myself a good washing in warm water, and especially did I devote myself to my feet. I will write of today's work to Joseph and after that which will be done in Diary form, I will tackle the "Romance" again. It has become interesting to me, and yet I hardly know why, mainly I think because the writer is so competent to describe scenes and incidents in a most pleasing manner, and also because I am anxious to see how the internal Electricity is to be illustrated. The knowledge of external electricity which I have enables me to read what the author wishes to show in relation to the source and power of the internal, with much satisfaction.

February 10: Sunday.

Noon. I slept well and when I got up this morning at 7 o'clock (I don't forget that every night I am up to look at my watch and at the Thermometer every two hours) to

enter on the business of the day, I hoped that the storm had abated, and it had to a slight degree, as the outdoor Therm. ranged only fourteen instead of four "above," and the wind was not so furious. The sun, too, that "glorious Orb of Day, came up from behind an unclouded horizon.

After breakfast, I read the Friends Intelligencer from cover to cover. I have not ventured out. No palp. last night. It is a quiet time inside. Only Frannie & self for breakfast, Mary choosing to stay in bed a while longer. Jimmy had been up and "made the fires" and gone. So life works on. Now forcibly I am reminded of the steady fight if Time, when every First-day morning I stand in front of the old clock at the head of the first flight of the stairway to wind it up for its work of ticking of the seconds for the next seven days & nights, and as I stand there, memory carries me back to nearly if not quite eighty years ago when father did as [I] do now stand in front of it and wind it up. It just occurs to me that I ought to write the history of it, so far as I know it since about 1814, when father bought it at the sale of William Stephenson's property, at the farm house since owned by Samuel Davis, nick-named "Tough," father of Frank Davis and Mary Ann Davis, married to Jesse Meredith, and now owned by Frank Davis's son Jesse M. Davis whose wife is daughter of my friends George Klauder & wife. Warm friends of mine, because after Mrs. Klauder had been a long time sick, or in poor health as folks say, I was called and soon she was well.

5 P.M. I have taken no nap this P.M. Have written a good deal more to my long, diary-form letter to Joseph and a pretty long one to Frannie Day.

February 11: Monday.

9 P.M. Slept well as usual. Palp. once. Took water which was efficient. Therm. 10° F. at sunrise. Cold, cold every where. Save, so far as we are concerned, in our house which is warm every where, save in the front parlor, which is closed.

By noon the weather greatly moderated, and the wind almost entirely allayed. At noon the neighboring working men were busy cutting roads every where. Never have I seen such immense snow-drifts at any time during my long life.

Have staid in the house all day, save for a few minutes trip to see the cows in the barn. The one is near Confinement but James is taking special care of her. They seem glad to see me come to them. They both are beauties.

This evening I rec'd. a letter from my sister Mary Adamson's gd. daughter, Sarah C. Pennypacker. [She] wrote that her brother Elijah died yesterday of Apoplexy, at their home near corner stores a mile south of Phenixville [sic]. Only a year or two ago his mother died, and a few years earlier his father Elijah F. Pennypacker died. He was an estimable young man and was doing well as a conveyancer in the neighborhood where his father had for more than forty years carried on that business successfully, and no man in the region was more confided and respected.

Sarah in her notice to the funeral on 5th day next says they, of course, do not expect me to come.

Daughter Susan got uneasy at not hearing from us, so sent their man to learn how we were doing. It is now bed-time, "Bon Nuit."

People are going through our lane and on back to the barn to the turnpike road. The drifts are just enormous in our road, but the man can do nothing yet of any

importance as they are drifted again directly, the wind not having varied from the N. West yet.

February 12: Tuesday.

9 A.M. No change in weather. Wind still howling on and the snow being drifted from the limbs of every tree, tops of posts, roofs of barns & houses.

Staid in the house all day. The roads are being opened now by gangs of men. Have not felt very well today. Bertha came from the City today to see us. It keeps James pretty busy with the sleigh to go our various errands.

The wife of a neighbor whom I have long known to borrow \$300 to buy a milk route from a neighbor. Poor woman! Her husband is a good, smart fellow, but too intemperate, and having several good horses and wagons, is now wholly out of work, and the horses, to use her expression, eating them out of house & home. I will see what I can do for her. Weather now abating somewhat of its violence.

February 13: Wednesday.

Was uneasy most of last night with a pain in my right chest. At 4 A.M. got up and took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph. After that slept some. Thought I would not get up, but when the usual time for doing so came around, I dressed & came down. I have long believed that in neuralgic pains about the chest, as well as in others, it is useful to use the affected part. Have been pretty comfortable today.

Our road is opened. It cost the Trolley Company \$100, it is said, to clear the track from Harmanville to the Conshohocken depot of the rail roads.

9 P.M. I sent James, don't see the lines good, to John J. to see if it would be safe for me to lease Mrs. Yetter have the \$300 on her brother Fillman giving me a note for that amt., endorsed by me and the money thus obtained, to hand over to her, to pay for the milk routes. He has returned and John writes to me that there are 5750 dollars already endorsed against his small farm. I am surprised, as she no doubt will be. I did not suppose he owed any thing in the shape of Mortgage or Judgment. That ends the matter with me. I regret to have to tell her so.

I think we will find that it was a scheme to get them to buy. I presume the talk about was her wanting to buy it as soon as Yetter was unable to raise the money was all a farce. How cautious we need to be in money matters.

February 14: Thursday.

Had a pretty good night. No palp. Cold. The drifts in our road so high that as the sleighs go along, I can only see just the tops of the horses heads as they pass, I looking from the window where I write. Expect Frannie Day at 11 A.M. Wrote a letter to Dr. Traill Green of Easton, Pa. and sent it to the mail at 9 A.M.

Frannie Day and son Richard came at eleven o'clock, left for home at 4:15 P.M. Little "Dick" is a smart boy, now about 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years old, is a very smart boy.

Before noon Mrs. Yetter & son came to get the \$300 from me on Henry Fillman's note to be endorsed by me and in that way gotten from Bank. I had written to my nephew John J. Corson to see if there were any mortgages or Judgments entered in the office against him. He found \$5450. So that was an end to the affair, as it is quite full value for the property.

Mrs. Yetter was surprised and grieved when I told her of it. She like myself had no idea that he was at all in debt.

Just while at supper, George Corson & wife Lizzie came to see us. Had quite a pleasant time for an hour. I asked George about Fillman and he knew he was in debt, but did not know the amount, but as one of the Directors of the Bank, said the Bank had refused "to do his note." I counseled Yetters to do nothing with Gallagher's affair. They could buy his Dearborn & harness and milk-cows and start on the route for themselves. The people would likely prefer them to Gallagher, whose goods and the route are seized on. Of course they can't sell a route that anyone can take.

February 15: Friday.

I mean, by what I have just said that "the sheriff can't sell a milk route."

Slept pretty well. No palp. My room at 60° F. all night. After breakfast went to the barn, got a palp. as soon as I got there. In a few minutes [it] went off. So I wont count it as one.

Told James to kill a pair of chickens and take them to Tacie. We have so many and they will come good to her. Frannie went with James. She is going to stay with Tacie while he for an hour or more does business for me in the Norristown. The sleighing is fine now. James was home before one P.M., the various items of business all performed [to] satisfaction.

Isaac Roberts & wife of Spring Mill called on a visit to us about 2 ½ P.M. It was quite a pleasant affair to me, as I think it was to them and Frannie. Mary was in bed. Isaac told me George Samson, a neighbor, died this morning. A truly sad thing. He was a good citizen. He made quite a clever fortune for one who came from Ireland penniless and was servant to brother George Corson for a few years.

Only about one month since he was anxious to know of me whether Dr. Beaver who was then recovering from apoplexy would ever be mentally able to engage "in practice." I was careful neither to deny or affirm, as every case must stand for itself. He had long had him as physician. I saw that he felt anxious on the subject. From that time until yesterday I heard nothing till Dr. Highley yesterday told me Mr. Samson was sick and Dr. Beaver who had attended him called in my nephew Dr. E. M. Corson in consultation. And now he is dead. What will the people say? It will be a fearful blow to Beaver. All will say he was not fit.

While I was yet talking to Isaac, palp. attacked me. As soon as he had gone, I took ¼ gr. of morph, one oz. of the Celeste, and in 20 minutes after took ice-water and Mr. palp. cried out "au-revoir."

Then I wrote a long letter to Robert R. Corson who is at Mentone [Menton], only about 10 miles from Nice in France. Wrote to him about the La Tourette Chateau. Wrote a long letter with great care of the penmanship. A man with a card, for every 10 cts he receipts you for it by sticking a pin through the card, getting up a new church, a break away from the Methodist & called the "Old Methodist Church."

"The sage is happy Nature to explore,

The fool is happy that he knows no more."

So as fools are still abundant, and the minister has no salary, they hope for a large congregation. It is the miserable early teaching of children that keeps us bound down by the incredible tales of the Bible.

February 16: Saturday.

No palp. during the night. Am pretty well today.

Noon. Just taken with a spell. Water twice tried in vain. Then as it was battering away, I ate dinner as usual & afterward went to bed, just lay down with my clothes on. In half an hour made a slight turn from my back towards my left side, and in an instant [was] all right. This often occurs, a slight change of position of the body and the pulse drops, as if by magic, to its normal pace.

9 P.M. After 4 P.M. I rode in the sleigh to see Helen and family. She has been sick for nearly two weeks, but I do not know what ailed her. She has been below stairs the last two days. I was amazed to see the snow drifts between here and Wm. Livezey's. Thomas Hovenden was so surprised to see their great size that he measured them. The highest one was eleven feet one inch in height. The road was full from side to side nearly the whole way to Consho. turnpike road, just beyond Williams. Years ago on numerous occasions I saw roads filled from fence to fence and as high as the fences in almost mile lengths, but there wondrous drifts as they were called were in their highest places only the depth of the fence, about 4, or 4 ½ feet.

February 17: Sunday.

Was very well at supper time last evening and had no palp. till getting up time this morning, and slept pretty well, only that I was up almost every hour and this morning had not a particle of appetite. I think this was a result of eating largely of scrapple at supper. I feared it then, but it was so good that I concluded to venture it. I rose, took ice water, palp. cont'd., went to bed and in half hour it went off while I was asleep.

Read Friends Journal until Jawood and Susan came, then entertained them from 10:30 to noon. Took almost nothing for dinner. Then went up stairs to bed, was there but a few minutes when palp. came again. Came down, took the ice-water and was soon well but weak and very tottering. Directly after palp. left me, I felt very well. At ¼ of 4 P.M. Frannie and Hiram went out to the sleigh to go to Sp. Mill, and I was feeling very well. They had scarcely gotten out of the lane when I was visited again by palps., very brusquely [brusquely] too. I at once went for my friend Ice-Water and he "doomed" Mr. Palp. quick as thought. That over, I took ¼ gr. that is an ounce of Celestial. Then Mary and self were alone. Before this occurred and after the attack after dinner had been arrested, I entirely finished reading Friends Journal. I like to read it every week. It shows me that there [are] a good many excellent people in the Society who weigh matters well and are deeply interested in caring for the poor wherever found. The Indians, the Southern liberated slaves, the intemperate and almost above all, the wives and families, the suffering victims of these cruel heartless drunkards. I think the Society of Friends from the days of George Fox down to the present time have exerted a most wonderful influence in morality. We will call it morality. The Protestant Religion as manifested in churches is a totally different thing; it is not works but "belief" & faith, and prayer as the evidence of their faith and belief.

The quarter grain that I took secured me from attacks since and I feel very well. At 7 P.M. began my evening reading as usual and kept at it till bed-time which is now. So I stop here and go to bed.

February 18: Monday.

No palp. during the night, indeed felt quite well, and as I had taken $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. about 4 o'clock and $\frac{1}{8}$ at bed-time, I had not to rise so often as usual, not more than four or five times, and felt very comfortable. Without it I would have been having repeated palps. and would have otherwise been uncomfortable.

Feel well this morning, have pretty fair appetite and expect to take a ride in the sleigh as the weather is mild looking.

9 P.M. Nothing unusual or even exciting today, no not even in Congress. The old Democratic leader in that place finds himself in a "tight place." Any of us can bear to carry on an aggressive war against our opponents, as long as those of our party cling to us and give us their support. But when, as in Cleveland's case, those who have supported us claim that we have abandoned the long cherished principles which we and they have long held, and abandon us and join with our former opponents, we feel ourselves toppling to our Fall. So it is with him. We are so near to the meeting of the new Congress that all hands seem to be willing to wait and see what will be the "outcome of its incoming."

No palp. today. Have taken an eighth 3 times today, viz. one before each meal; will take one more eighth at bed-time. Snow melted some today, as the Therm. was from 40° to 45° most of the time after ten o'clock.

Had a letter from Prof. James Tyson asking if I was not the originator of the treatment of Chorea with Blk. Snake Root. I think some one has been passing off his use of it as original work. I have used it for more than fifty years and never failed with it. See my paper on the subject in Med. & Surg. Reporter, Nov. 6, 1886.

Dr. Percy Corson was here to get the diet list for his mother that Dr. Anna Lukens prepared for Mary. Sent a copy of my Hydrophobia paper to the quite celebrated Joseph Jones, M.D. of New Orleans.

February 19: Tuesday.

Nothing unusual as regards my health. At 9 A.M. James & self went to the Election. I voted the whole Republican ticket because knowing all the candidates, I thought they were those on the Democratic ticket.

After dinner I had James to take me to George Samson's funeral. I went in & though the minister at the head of the stairs [was] preaching, I was directed into the room where George lay in a most beautiful coffin. I stood close to him but the house was so dark that I could recognize his face as George's. What does incline the people to darken the houses so much? I do not wish it to be so in my case.

February 20: Wednesday.

Felt very wretched when I awoke & got up. I had been up an hour before but thought it rather early. I had slept well, barring the frequent awakings all night. Still I felt so stupid, so dull, so weak that I concluded these things might be due to taking a little more morph. to stop or prevent the spells of palp., which had been quite frequent. So I concluded to take none at all for that purpose, and today have taken none. Whether I can sleep and be comfortable without taking any will be shown, perhaps, tonight. Tacie has been here since ten o'clock until six. Then James took her home. It is now 9 P.M.

February 21: Thursday.

Took no medicine, no Celestial, last night. As I have had no pain and am no more nervous and twitching when I go to be, I will try to do without any, will just take the Coca Wine, La Tonique Mariana, as it is called. So took no morph. all day yesterday, not at bed-time. Slept just about as usual. Rose as well as yesterday, perhaps a little better.

4 P.M. But O how weak I am. Have been on the lounge nearly all day. But as yet have not taken any anodyne, save some paregoric on account of a looseness of the bowels and pain & heat in the stomach. Have read the Press, but it was a labor to do that.

Susan was up here a while and entertained right well for an hour or more. Mary all day has been quietly working away at her embroidering. Dear girl, how faithful she is and how anxious about me.

About 2 o'clock this afternoon I had an attack of palp. for a few minutes.

Frederick Douglass, the once slave, the great statesman, the man who was so influential in the great cause of the abolition of human slavery in the United States, died suddenly at his home in Washington yesterday (Feb. 20th afternoon). The great National Convention of Women was being held in that city and he was for a time in attendance and had been chatting with Susan B. Anthony, the President. When he returned home, he had no feeling of illness, though he seemed a little exhausted from the climb of the flight of stairs which is on a high terrace. He chatted with his wife about the women of the convention, telling what had been said and done, suddenly he gasped, clopped his hand to his heart and fell unconscious and died in a few moments. His is a wonderful history. I have taken the trouble to copy this from the Press, though feeling almost too weak even to write.

I think my own tenure of life is almost at an end. It seems to me that it is impossible for me to hold on any longer.

It is 10 minutes of six P.M. and I have taken $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. Celeste, not but what I could easily have resisted, but because I would like to see whether my system could respond to it. We will see.

9 P.M. Feeling rather better for the Celeste & the Mariana.

February 22: Friday.

Washington's Birth Day. Pretty fair night. Up only six times. Slightly better than yesterday morning. The Banks, public offices and Post offices will be closed all day, the papers say. Snow gradually going away. The last three days I could hardly believe that I could live from one to the next.

The day has passed. Charley Day came at eleven o'clock, instead of his sister whom we expected, as she did not feel well. Susan, my daughter, spent the day with us. Helen came over and incidentally said Alan Garrison's horse was in a suffering way for want of feed and care. So, though not feeling able to go out much, I went with her to see about the horse. Found him pretty poor, but having just then some right, good hay & there was more in the mow, the stable clean and a thick bed of corn stalks. Not much to complain of these hard times, save that it is ridiculous for him to have a horse.

Have been better today than yesterday. No doubt because of the mild stimulation

of yesterday by the Celestial. So this P.M. I took a grain at 5 P.M. & 1/8 when I went to bed.

Began to read "Trilby" the now popular Novel by George Du Maurier.

February 23: Saturday.

After dinner went, well bundled-up, with James to Conshohocken, stopped to see Susan, saw Esq. Smith, got some rent from him, came home by way of Spring Mill.

In the forenoon I did nothing out of doors but read some, a good many pages of Trilby. Am not much carried away with it, though it is the literary fad of the day. It, perhaps, is better further on. I am pretty well today.

February 24: Sunday.

8 A.M. Had palp. once in the night. The ice-water took it off after a short delay. Slept well. Ten minutes ago, since breakfast and while writing a five lines above, palp. took hold of me again. The water took it off at once, but such heavy drinks of the coldest possible water are not pleasant to be gulped down rapidly.

After breakfast read Friends Journal and Intelligencer before Jay & Susan came at 10:30 A.M. After dinner took a short nap, then read Trilby for an hour, after that wrote letters. Before bed-time, 9 P.M. had a palp. for an hour, then took water. Took ¼ gr. sulph. morph. & went to bed.

February 25: Monday.

8 A.M. Slept admirably through the night, rising only four times before 5 o'clock, when I had an attack of palp. Took two drinks of ice-water quickly after which it left me. But getting out of a warm bed and swallowing rapidly a tumbler full of ice-water, not such as people drink in common, but the coldest possible, and sometimes having to repeat it at once, is not very comfortable, the feeling when I return to bed being as though there were lumps of ice filling it. Up at 7:15. Have had breakfast. Weather cold and damp with chilling wind.

9 P.M. Dr. Ellwood came to see me last evening, the first time for nearly three weeks. Have remained at home all day though I could have gone out very well, the Therm. being up to 50° much of the day.

Had a long letter from Dr. Bennett today, very satisfactory in relation to the Hospital Investigation, which shows that the management has been admirable.

I have been pretty well all day. Have read and written a good deal from friends and letters to them. Sent a letter to Dr. Craig of Columbia to see if he would consent to have his name laid before Gov. Hastings for appointment to be Trustee at Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburgh. Also wrote a letter to Mrs. Dr. Jane K. Garver, woman physician at that place, who wants me to secure the appointment of a Trustee favorable to the female physician being independent of the male one, called superintendent.

February 26: Tuesday.

Slept well as usual. No palp. Up at 6:45. Though the therm. is only about 30°, the cold north wind makes it seem like a very cold day.

4 P.M. Staid at home. Frannie & son Richard came at eleven o'clock and while we were at dinner, Richard the father came. Before they left here, Susan came in her

carriage and later took them to Conshohocken with her at 4 P.M., just now I might say. Have not had palp. yet.

9 P.M. Nothing new since the girls went away. Took up "Tribly" again. The last half of it seems more satisfactory than the first half. The author is a wonderfully imaginative man and has the facility of dressing his thoughts in the most beautiful style. But I am not, to use a common expression, built in a way to greatly appreciate the book. Yet I do not think it is harmful, indeed, it is the very reverse to a thinking person. The great love which all these people of such various natures seem to have for each other inclines one strongly to believe in our natural goodness of heart, and teaches us that we should not judge harshly people with whom we are but slightly acquainted.

At two o'clock this night I had a palp. spell, but had slept well before it occurred and again afterward.

February 27: Wednesday.

The three lines above should have been written here. It was last night that it, the palp. occurred. I am feeling pretty well this morning. It is a lovely morning and now 8 ½ o'clock the therm. at freezing. The huge snow banks will dwindle a good deal today.

4 P.M. I sent to Sp. Mill to meet Bertha Yocom, instead of to Conshohocken as she had written to me. She having dashed past Sp. Mill in the Express found no one at Consho. So walked up to her sister Susan Lukens, and as she was away, Bertha went back to the Cars and went home. I am very sorry for it. It was my fault, as she had written to me that she would go in the Express to Consho. It does not stop at Sp. Mill.

After dinner James took me to Norristown to John's, as I wanted to do some moneyed matters. Then we came home by way of Tacie's. I stood the ride quite well. Have just gotten home.

9 P.M. Nothing additional save that I had several letters by the mail. I rec'd. quite a grateful letter from Dr. Alexander Craig of Columbia, Lancaster Co. for my intention to have Governor Hastings appoint him on the Board of Trustees of the Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburgh.

February 28: Thursday.

Rose early after a rather comfortable night, and James took me to Joseph Coulston's to correct a mistake I had made in loaning him more money for his son the Minister than he had asked for. Corrected it. No palp. last night, nor any since Wednesday morning, or night at 2 o'clock.

Bertha came at 9:45 A.M. Susan at 10 A.M.. Dr. John Paxson of Bucks Co. came just before Bertha did. We had a long and pleasant talk. Gave him several of my pamphlets which he had wanted badly. He seems a warm, sincere friend.

9 P.M. At 3:30 took half a Leidlitz powder. I am quite hoarse and a little tight above the top of the sternum. At 9:45 P.M. Bertha left for home. I fear they will miss the cars, they move off so slowly, but they got down in good time.

March 1: Friday.

Had palp. nearly all the time from 2 A.M. till morning, though I took ice-water several times. About 5 o'clock in the morning I took ¼ gr. morph. This made me feel

greatly more comfortable and allayed my bronchial trouble very much, and after a while the thing was [?improved].

I have had palpitation nearly all day until two o'clock, the time now. And I still have it though I have had relief from it several times during the day. I have taken large drinks of cold water repeatedly, but in no case did it arrest the trouble, yet several times, in quarter or half hour after I had taken it would suddenly stop, but as suddenly start again after half hour or less time.

I took a quarter grain morph. a 5 o'clock this morning and it did allay both my hoarseness and the discomfort of the palpitations. About 10 o'clock I took 1/8 more.

I will now await the spell going off until four o'clock and should it not, will take 1/4 grain. The day is lovely, so warm.

At 2 1/2 P.M. took ice-water & stopped the palps. at once. Afterwards, almost immediately, took 1/4 gr. Palp. off only 10 minutes when it came again.

March 2: Saturday.

8 A.M. All the day until bed-time, the palp. cont'd. after 2 1/2 P.M. yesterday. I was very much annoyed by its persistence, but could not prevent it. A short time before 9 P.M. I tried the ice-water again and stopped it. Then I went to bed, but in a few minutes [it] returned. I then concluded to let it go on. So went to bed and in about an half hour it went off, and all night I was free from it and slept pretty well.

5 P.M. Susan has been with me all day; has just gone home. I have just finished five letters to our Representatives and one to Dr. Garver of Harrisburgh Hospital.

Senator Saylor wrote me yesterday that he has passed my "bill" to confer the entire control & management of our Hospitals for the care of our Insane poor to the Boards of Trustees of said Hospitals, with only three adverse votes. So I have written to our Representatives to do their best to put it through the House.

I am quite tired now, but have not had a spell of palp. today.

9 P.M. Have written to Joseph [and] to Dr. Thomas in reply to a postal from him, and am feeling pretty well. Have written seven letters today.

March 3: Sunday.

Rested pretty well last night, only one spell [of] palp. Water took it off instantly. At 10:30 Jaywood & Susan came, bringing gd. dau. Bertha C. Day with them. The first two went home at noon leaving Bertha here. Helen Hovenden came soon after dinner & brought with her a printed protest for me to have signed by persons in Whitemarsh township against licensing a house for a tavern in Plymouth township. The rule now is to have the petitions for and against, that the signers shall be residents of the township where the tavern is asked for. But we conclude to show the Court that our nearness to the place entitles us to be heard. So I will, if able, try to get names against licensing it, the present week.

Wrote since dinner a letter to Dr. J. K. Reid and enclosed in the same envelope a letter of introduction to Edward Foulke of Washington City where Dr. Reid is now living.

Midnight. I have had palp. during 3 hours. Water took it off at 9 P.M. when it struck me just as I was going to bed. But I scarcely had got to bed afterwards before it struck me again. I then bore it till 10 o'clock, then took water but not quite enough, but

went back to bed and staid there till a few minutes ago. Took the water again and now it is off.

Noon. Have been on the lounge nearly all the time since breakfast and much of the time asleep. About 9 o'clock took an eighth and a sixteenth of Celestial. And at eleven o'clock took 3 Quinine pills, each two grains. Think I will do without taking any tonic for a time. Had no appetite for dinner. Ate almost nothing.

9 P.M. Took 6 grains Quinine at 3 P.M. Also had to take Paregoric to arrest looseness of Bowels. At 4 P.M. concluded to ride out and get signers to a protest against a license being granted for a Hotel on the turnpike to Consho. Got 10 subscribers in a round by Potts' quarry, mostly women. The men generally are afraid that the rummies will go against them in their business, &c.

The ride did not harm me. Read Dr. Weir Mitchell's address before the Medico Psychological Society composed mainly of superintendents of Hospitals for Insane, Sanitariums, private asylums, &c. Home before six.

Dr. Mitchell's address is full of thoughts, views, suggestions in relation to the care & treatment of our insane, but every one of them were those which I have held and made public for a dozen years or more, and to reform the management have three times passed a bill through the Senate, almost unanimously, and had Dr. M. aided me by favorably influencing the Phila. Senators and Representatives of Phila. instead of hiding his light, would have become a law. But even without his aid, I think I will succeed during this Session as it already has passed the Senate for the third time.

It is too cowardly in the men of this neighborhood to be afraid of the rummies. If a man wants office, or has something to sell, or is a milk man or small store-keeper, or huckster, or butcher, they say I did not sign for it & said I would not sign against it.

March 5: Tuesday.

No palp. last night. Slept fairly well. Wrote letters, read the Press, &c., till noon. At 2 P.M. daughter Susan came, loaded as she generally is with some appetizing food for me, broths, &c., &c.

At 4 P.M. went to see Helen, then about the village to get signers to my protest. Got several. As yesterday, several men could not sign for the license.

9 P.M. Two days ago, I sent to my gd. son Charles Day a microscope given to me many years ago by Dr. Winthrop Sargent, I think. I had aided him in his efforts to get practice here in Pennsylvania. He hailed from Massachusetts, a brother to Dr. Fritz Williams, now I think resident in Italy, and Gorman [Gorham] Sargent of Bryn Mawr (deceased). Their father, Mr. Sargent of Boston sent me the Boston Elm tree now standing on lower side of the lane between the office & the gate of the barn yard. [This is a] copy of Gd. Son Charles Day's letter of thanks to me for the microscope:

Dear Grandfather.

Bertha has just returned with the microscope, for which I am anxious to thank thee at once, and shall regard it as a great keepsake. Father says, it is of great historical value with respect to the evolution of the microscope. We intend to get a history of the microscope from the library and examine the illustrations. Father had a book some time ago with the various stage forceps and Lieberkühen [Lieberkühn]

reflector, also the abandoned method of mounting in bone.

Mrs. Thompson, across the street, has a high cost English compound microscope, made forty years ago, which is so unsteady that it would probably never do as good work as this old one. Father says, "it is only within that time that the compound microscope has been perfected, and is now such a wonderful instrument. Of late years the Germans have produced marvelous illustrations and the pictures of the instruments with which great discoveries were made 200 years ago, which were much the same as this one. By referring to some of our books, father finds Malpighi of Bologna in 1661 studied, with a frog, the circulation of the blood. In 1670 Leeuwenhoeck [Leeuwenhoek] of Holland discovered the animalcules in water, and about the same time Grew in England studied the structure of wood, &c., all with instruments of this principle. And here we have the animalcule cage-lenses. The shark skin case I know from a piece that I have. I am [sure] the maker's name is on the stand.

Thanking thee extremely for this rare gift.

Thy loving grandson

Chas. Day

March 4th, 1895.

March 6: Wednesday.

Letters. One from Representative J. B. Goentner wishing me to loan him Dr. Weir Mitchell's recent address before the Medico-Psychological Society, composed of Supts. of Hospitals for the Insane & some others, on the present treatment of insanity by them, or rather mal-treatment of it.

Woman here at 3 P.M. begging money for a widow & children of John Gitman Jr. dec'd. Gave my mite for which she seemed grateful though it was small.

After 3 ½ P.M. Jimmy & self went over to Harmanville and obtained a few signers to the remonstrance against licensing a Tavern there. The women in almost every house were anxious to sign, and that their husbands and sons should do so, too. Many of the men were very cowardly and would excuse themselves by saying, "I wont sign for license nor against it." We got seven names & the promise of more sometime when the men were home from work.

March 7: Thursday.

Slept wonderfully last night. Coughed several times, expectorating large masses of matured bronchial secretion. It seems to me almost like sputum of Consumption. Perhaps it is only the closing out of the bronchial secretion of my "bad cold." I am still quite hoarse.

Have been at home all day. Have encouraging letters from our Senator & Representatives. Nothing of special interest to note for the day.

March 8: Friday.

Got through the night with but one palp. spell. At 10 A.M. Isaac Roberts & wife

brought Aaron M. Powell & wife to see me. Aaron delivered an address in Conshohocken last evening in which he paid the highest kind of tribute to me for my many labors in favor of the sex. The visit this morning was a very pleasant one. It lasted 1 ½ hours. Mr. Powell is one of the many Abolitionists of fifty years ago, who still live. He is a minister among Friends. Susan was here to help entertain.

Invited to write a paper for the State Med. meeting on Program, by Sec'y.

March 9: Saturday.

The fiercest kind of N. West snow storm began at 6 A.M. and cont'd. till 10 A.M. By noon the sun was out in all its splendor, and after noon was a fine bright one, with Therm. 32° in the shade. One spell palp. last night. Have been pretty well today, but without disposition to undertake the preparation of a medical paper for State Med. Soc.

9 ½ P.M. A spell of palp. after 6 P.M., supper over. I took cold water, but not cold enough, three times without avail, intervals of from 20 to 40 minutes between them. At 10:30 took a drink which checked it.

March 10: Sunday.

4 ½ P.M. Much palp. until 11 P.M. last night, after that slept well. Have had no attack so far today. At 10 Bertha & James Jr. and at 10:30, Jay & Susan came. Bertha left at 4. Ellwood & Maggie came just as they left and staid half hour pleasantly to us.

I read Friends Intelligencer & Journal, all before 10 A.M. It is pleasant to read.

March 11: Monday.

Slept well last night. Snowing. At 9 A.M. went to see Helen and advise with each other how best to carry on our opposition to the tavern license.

After dinner went up to bed, and a few minutes ago rose to find it ¼ of 5 P.M. How I was astonished. I had been awake for half an hour before rising, but felt so very comfortable, so rested & supposing it to be only about 2 P.M. lay still again.

It is now just 5 P.M. and I do feel greatly rested and well. The weather, as seen from the window on my left hand, is dreary looking. Ground covered with snow, a sleety snow coming from the East driven smartly.

9 P.M. Pretty well all the evening, but just now as I was ready for bed, palp. struck me. I had the coldest kind of ice water in refrigerator, so at once took it with instant effect.

March 12: Tuesday.

6 ½ A.M. Slept along very well [last] night until after midnight. Then when I was feeling very comfortable, palp. struck me. Again, the water was ready & cold as it could be & liquid. Took it and instantly the spell ceased. After that, rested along till 6 A.M.

The ground, trees & buildings again well covered with snow. Weather very hazy, can't see the houses at Plymouth Meeting.

Mrs. Peary is getting up an expedition to the snow & ice bound regions of Greenland to bring home her husband & his few men. He has had enough fun.

3 P.M. As soon as I had gotten through the dinner, I went up stairs and lay on the bed without undressing. Got awake at 2 P.M., thought I might lay awake a while. Next thing I knew was that I was awake and an hour's time had passed & began to write.

Well I am feeling rested. It must be good for me to take a little more time in sleep than I have done in nearly all the ninety years that have passed, years of unbroken work.

Dismal-looking outside my left hand window, snow over the ground, haze in the atmosphere and a fine drizzle.

9 P.M. Before 4 P.M. I began to write a paper for the State Medical Society and to do it so carefully & correctly that I need not re-write it. I felt the difficulty of so condensing what seemed to be necessary to the proper elucidation of the subject, the principles & method of treatment, that I had to go along very guardedly and therefore got only half dozen pages completed before fading day-light compelled me to stop.

Letters from Joseph and from Frannie Day per mail at 8 o'clock. Wrote to Dr. Alexander Craig whom I am asking Gov. Hastings to make a Trustee for Harrisburgh Hospital.

March 13: Wednesday.

Not a very comfortable night as I got awake every hour till 3 ½ A.M., after that not quite so often. But as I, after getting up looking at my watch and walking about a few minutes, readily dropped into sleep again, I did pretty well. I fear my day sleeping may lessen the capacity to sleep at night without so many breaks. Weather still dull, hazy, gloomy looking, though the temperature is only just above freezing point. At 7 ½ P.M. a spell of palp. Ice water arrested it. Have read the Norristown Herald since and now ready for bed.

March 14: Thursday.

A beautiful day. Rode out only to the P. Office. W. Cresson returned from Pittsburgh today, came to see me, returned to me the \$35 that I loaned him to go there & begin getting orders for a Nursery-man in Rochester.

Spent nearly an hour in the office boxing minerals for the George School. Hope I was not there too long. Had had the coal-oil stove burning for two hours.

March 15: Friday.

9 P.M. Palp. once last night. Water did its work quickly. Have been very busy all day. Read the Press, which of itself is an hour's steady work, & much that I read of no value to me.

Rec'd. a letter from Dr. Craig. Prof. Stahley had written to him that Senator Kauffman and all Lancaster County's Reps. were doing their best for him with Gov. Hastings. We will succeed he thinks.

Rec'd. very interesting letter from my nephew Thomas Adamson. In the afternoon wrote letters to Dr. Saml. Wolfe, Prof. H. C. Wood, Dr. Weber, Dr. Huntsberger [Hunsberger], & son Joseph.

Had one attack of palp. before dinner, one after supper at 6 ½ P.M., and another at seven P.M. Water efficient in every case. I also wrote a long letter to Thomas Adamson in reply to his. Packed my minerals for an hour, for the George School.

At half past 8 another spell of palp. How strange that it persists in coming. During several days I have been but little troubled with it.

March 16: Saturday.

At 10:30, after I went to bed, had an attack of palp. Again after eleven an attack. The first one went off at once with the use of the ice-water. The next did not immediately but after half an hour or less. No more until morning. Slept well.

Went to see daughter Susan who was not well, bad cold only. After dinner engaged selecting and putting up minerals for the George School. It will seem to a reader of this, if any one shall ever read it, that I must be getting a great many minerals for that school, but I can only stay in the cold office but a short time of any day, half hour or whole one.

Sold the Jesse Rush horse for \$15.00. The man had gone to Jesse and brot him for \$10, if I would give. I did not, so got \$15, which I will give Jesse credit for on his "bill." I have kept him during the winter and improved him, for nothing.

Palp. at 4 ½ P.M. Water stopped it.

March 17: Sunday.

Palp. last night at 2 o'clock. I was feeling uncommonly well I might say when it struck me, as I did all night, save that spell, until I could get the water. Feel very well and strong this morning. It almost makes me laugh to have said that, for just as I came to the desk to write this, I tottered so much that I nearly fell over.

Read the Friends Intelligencer & Journal before dinner. No visitors today. Have been very comfortable.

March 18: Monday.

Did not take my medicine as usual yesterday, nor nearly so much of it. So at 11 last night, I had a spell of palp. Took water; gone at once. At 2 had a spell; at 4 a spell. Water did it instantly in both cases. At five had a spell, lay still an hour or more, then took the water without avail. It is now 8 o'clock and I have tried the water three times since six o'clock without avail. It is still on me. (Wrote a long letter to Dr. Anna Lukens of N. York last evening; asked her a number of medical questions, about Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever. She is an observant practitioner.

The palp. which was still on me at 8 A.M. cont'd. till nearly eleven o'clock. Then was absent until just before dinner at 12 noon. Then cont'd. with only his intermissions of half hour each until now, and now at 5 o'clock it is till upon me. Twice this afternoon I arrested the palps. by taking the water, but in about half an hour re-appeared.

For the past three hours I have been reading Higher Criticism by Thos. Ellwood Longshore. What a grand, truthful exposition this book is of the effect of the Priesthood, of the fatal tyranny with which they have imposed their demoniac religion on their disciples and doomed them to eternal torment for the violation of their so-called Religion. A wonderful satisfactory book this is to me. Would that it were in every intelligent family, indeed in every family, in our country.

Now 5 P.M. the palps. have been on me for hours and is still on me. When it is, if I begin to write or read and sit quite still, the heart though keeping up its pace, loses its

force and subsides into quiet, mild action under which I am pretty comfortable. I have taken the ice water several times without avail, twice it was effectual.

9 P.M. Since 6 o'clock, I had the palp. through my supper time and for an hour after, indeed with exception of one half hour, all the time until about twenty minutes ago. Just before supper at six o'clock, I took $\frac{3}{8}$ th of a grain of morph. sulph. and 1 oz. Marianna. Don't intend to take any more medicine tonight, even though the palps should go on all night. But likely I would "give in" & take some.

Have read my letters and the evening "Norristown Herald" and am now ready for bed.

March 19: Tuesday.

7 A.M. O! how well I slept last night, only awake four times. The sleep was very refreshing, judged by my feelings when awake. Even now, the good feeling is with me. Up at six after a most pleasant night's sleep. Therm. 28° F. Ground still covered with snow, thinly but frozen and slippery.

At home all day, busy in many small things. No palp. all day. Feel quite well; good appetite; slept well last night.

The Legislature is making a great show of business. Norristown Hospital Investigation is going on. It looks now as if the Committee are astonished not by the bad management that they expected to find, but by the careful, proper management which is shown in every department.

March 20: Wednesday.

No palp. last night. Slept well. Am in good condition this morning. At eleven A.M. had palp. Half hour prior to that, I had taken $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph. to avert it. The first trial of the water took it off. In half an hour had it again. Then my first trial with the ice-water failed, but the next trial in half an hour did the work.

After dinner of oysters, &c., I went to bed at one o'clock and slept till half past two, got up, took little Richard Day to see the pigs, geese, &c., and while out there only a few minutes, was attacked with palp. again. Took the water & away the unnecessary beats went.

Four $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock P.M., Frannie & son just gone.

At 10 minutes of 5 P.M., palp. again while quietly reading, with no one in the dining room but myself. I concluded it would not do to be going on this way if more anodyne would prevent it. So took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph. & two teaspoonsful paregoric. Then in a few minutes took the ice-water, a big tumbler of it, and it disappeared and I came in at once to write this account. It seems as though it is to be with me all the time.

March 21: Thursday.

After the 5 P.M. spell yesterday, had no more palps. till bed-time, none in the night. Am feeling pretty well. After breakfast wrote a letter to Joseph and one to Bertha. After breakfast took $\frac{1}{8}$ gr. morph. I want now to return to a regular habit of taking one eighth three times a day to see if that wont be efficient in averting the coming of the spells.

I went to Consho. this morning to collect my rents. Tacie & daught. here when I

returned. After dinner, Saml. Livezey's wife and Caleb Hallowell's daughter, Suffragists, came here begging for money to get up a cake & ice-cream party.

Have taken 1/8 gr. before breakfast and one before dinner. Will take one after supper and possibly one at bed-time. No palp. since yesterday. Jimmy & self boxing up minerals for an hour.

March 22: Friday.

Slept quite well. No palp. Am pretty bright this morning. Therm. 25. Snow still lying behind the house and on the north side of every tree, where the sun was kept from it. There is a small heap of snow close to the bottom of the tree.

Last evening the mail brot me an appeal of a woman for work, should I know of any one who needed a person to wash or scrub or do any other house-work. This is quite an educated woman, the daughter of a physician and the wife of another, the same woman and family whom I helped years ago. The husband sells books on commission. A rather poor affair he is.

9 P.M. At 8 P.M. palp. struck me. Took water twice before this time (9 P.M.) without avail. Had taken four doses from 6 A.M. till 8 ½ P.M. without avail to prevent it, & took the ice-water an hour since without avail. So now I will go to bed and if possible stay there till it leaves.

March 23: Saturday.

Went to bed last night at 9 P.M. with palp. on me. Just lay still till at eleven it left. Then I was free from it until 5 o'clock this morning. I lay still until 6:20, when I rang the electric bell for the Mary's, dressed myself and came down stairs. It was still battering away, now at 7 A.M. But I concluded to sit down to breakfast. Found I had left my teeth upstairs, went up to get them and while there, the palp. suddenly as usual left. I then came down and as I wanted to finish fixing my minerals for the "George School," took ¼ gr. sulphate [morphine]. In half an hour palp. came again.

I busied myself with the minerals industriously until eleven o'clock, it being all the time on me. Then took the ice-water & was well. While at dinner palp. came again. I tried the water after I had eaten my dinner, but it failed. I then went up stairs to bed at one P.M.

At 2 P.M., just after I awoke from a good nap, palp. stopped. After the spell went off at 2 P.M., I went to work to fill up a box of minerals for another school or college, as I have so many duplicates.

It is now 8:30 P.M. and I have not had any spell since the one left at 2 P.M. The evening mail brought me a letter from Dr. Anna Lukens of N. York, a former pupil with me.

March 24: Sunday.

Though having had so many spells yesterday & night before, I had none last night, but I had minerals in my mind and so occupied it as to be the basis of dreams which occasionally awakened me. Up at 6. After breakfast went to office and cleaned away numerous old papers which were strewed all over the floor. Slept an hour after dinner. Jay & Susan here 1 ½ hours. Finished my paper. It is now 8 P.M., have had no palp.

March 25: Monday.

Up at 6, after having had a palp. at eleven last night and which did not go off on my drinking a tumbler-full of ice-water, nor until an hour afterwards, and [had] a poor night after it went off. A dull morning and like the morning, I seem to be in at least an unsprightly mood.

Behind the house, just outside my window, I still see the ground covered with snow in all shaded places. For more than three months the ground has had snow on it in places.

6 P.M. Have been very busy all day at various matters. Have not had palp. Helen came with her fine horses, carriage and driver to take us with her to Norristown, if we would like to go. Mary went but I staid at home. Ida is home at Washington again. Ellwood and Helen brought her.

9 P.M. The 8 [P.M.] mail brot me letters from Henry Fell whom I have not seen for 66 years. It was pleasant to get it. I had sent him my Hydrophobia paper, pamphlet; one from Dr. Huntzberger [Hunsberger], many pages; one from Tacie's dau. Ann, or Nancy Cresson; also the evening or afternoon Norristown Herald, very interesting issue. So I have been closely engaged for an hour.

March 26: Tuesday.

Palp. at eleven last night. Took tumbler-full of the coldest possible water. That stopped it. I then went to bed again, and in $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour it was on me again. So I bore it until half past two, when I resorted to the water again. Again the ice-water arrested the palpitations, and the heart was content to go on the old way of 52 beats per minute. But I did not sleep well and rose at 6 this morning. I had not taken but $\frac{3}{8}^{\text{th}}$ of the sulphate yesterday.

Before going to breakfast I took two pills of quinine each two grains. Wrote a letter to Henry Fell & sent Recognition of Women Physicians, &c.

March 27: Wednesday.

Daughter Susan Lukens and daughter Frannie Day have been here, also little Richard Day. I have been at Norristown and while there, went to the funeral of Anna Gilbert, wife of Solomon Gilbert, who was daughter of Benjamin & Catharine Lukens. Also went to see my niece Mrs. Hannah Schultz, daughter of my sister Sallie Corson Read. She is above seventy years old and has long had a deal of cough, is pale & in bed, but does not suffer much save by the cough.

March 28: Thursday.

Letter from W. H. Hahn from Champaign, Illinois, one whom I knew fifty years ago and to whom I sent a copy of Hydrophobia paper, one of my pamphlets. He seemed overjoyed to hear from me. Very busy as usual and free from palpitations.

March 29: Friday.

Two palps. last night, but the water was efficient quickly both times. Feel pretty well this morning.

9 P.M. Very busy all day. Am having my apple orchard trimmed. It needs it badly. Minerals ready to send away. Rec'd. several interesting letters today. The most

interesting one from Robert R. Corson, from France, telling of a visit to Chateau de la Tourette. The once owner Pierre de la Tourette came to avoid persecution in the same vessel that our ancestor Cornelius Corson came to Staten Island at the time of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes under the reign of Louis XIVth.

Yesterday had a very interesting letter from a Lady wanting to learn of the Corson family. Whether she is of our clan.

Papers, pamphlets, &c., in abundance. Busy, busy with trifles.

March 30: Saturday.

To Norristown in the forenoon, to get the school bonds out of my box, as the School Board or Directors wish to pay \$100 of them, viz. ten shares of stock, or rather ten of the one hundred dollar bonds on Monday.

Busy getting up a box of minerals, just like the specimens sent to the "George School," in the afternoon. A number of letters this evening.

The Hospital Investigation still going on, but, though the Committee do their utmost to find something wrong, they are not able to do it.

Very lovely day, so bright, not a cloud, but the air cool & piercing, at least to those who spend so much time of the 24 hours in the heated stove-room-air.

March 31: Sunday.

Read the Friends Intelligencer till Jay and Susan came. They left at noon. About 2 ½ P.M. the "Bacon Boys," Bert and Frank [came]. They staid until after tea. The evening passed off quietly.

April 1: Monday.

Quite early in the forenoon, Wm. Ely, our Tax Collector, called to pay me \$1145. Eleven hundred of it was for 11 School Bonds and \$45 was half year's interest on \$1,800 worth of Bonds. He left \$700 of Bonds unpaid. After dinner I went to Norristown to collect the interest on \$1,400 County Bonds, deposited \$173 in Bank. Sold Hay.

April 2: Tuesday.

7 A.M. No spell of palpitation since Feb. 29th, now four days nearly.

April 3: Wednesday.

Nothing new, save that I am a little more blundery, yet have written about seven letters and Mary has rec'd. more photographs of La Tourette Chateau and the region of the valley which lays between Nice and La-Tourette. A most picturesque region when the old Chateau was inhabited by its owner, who had to flee from it.

I have been pretty well all day.

April 4: Thursday.

Started after breakfast to Conshohocken to pay taxes due for 1894 by self, Follen, Joseph K. to the amt. of \$127.99. A heavy tax, our properties barely pay it. Once rents were high & taxes low, and then our rents paid well. I also wished to get my Rent for the Gate House, \$84.00. But as the parties were not at home, I sent to Jesse Holmes,

mineralogist at the "George School" three boxes of minerals, a weight of 113 pounds and paid the expense, only 25 cts., to send them as freight.

Not being able to see the Tax Collector, Mr. Hewitt, nor Washington Wood, the manager of the Turnpike Company, I went again after dinner and got the taxes paid. Rent for the Gate House I did not get as Mr. Wood was not well and not at the office.

After dinner today, I felt that I must take a nap, but recollected a maxim learned at school, viz. "leave not until tomorrow what can be done today." I concluded to go and have felt better and have been bettered by doing it.

April 5: Friday.

Don't have palpitation but rarely now, and the ice-water does the work quickly. Have only had about one spell in 24 hours for the past 3 days.

Had cramps badly last night in my limbs, the result of over-work yesterday. I remember other times when I had it as a result of too much fatigue. I had to be up and walk about many times.

The Press reports rumors of wars, on hand or threatening nearly over the whole world. Mary & self spend the days quietly, with very few visitors, or better we have but few visitors and yet plenty.

April 6: Saturday.

Good night. No cramp. Slept well, but feel very weak all the time. I know that a little more morpheum would make me feel fine, but I will try to get along with a quarter of grain, or at most 1/8th more, a quarter and an eighth.

Mary and self went to Norristown in the afternoon, to get a Tongaline^{xiv} for her and Tonique Mariana for myself.

April 7: Sunday.

Had palp. in the night and had to have two trials of the water before it was successful.

9 P.M. Was very weak and uncomfortable, but no pain all the forenoon. Jay & Susan came at 10, staid till nearly noon and by this time I was much exhausted. Then took nearly, indeed just ¾ of ¼ of a grain of morph. and about ¼ of a wine glassful of Mariana Tonique. Felt much strengthened by that and dinner, though I could of that only take a piece of pie & some milk.

Walked about the yards after dinner & did not feel that I must lie down. At four P.M. Mrs. Emily Corson & Martha Poley her daughter and Warren her husband came & spent half hour or so. After supper at 6, Helen Hovenden and Thomas the Artist came & spent about half hour, and I felt on both these occasions tolerably sprightly.

20 minutes after seven I had a severe spell of palp., and I ought to have said I had a pretty severe one after dinner. To rid myself of the 2nd spell had to take water twice. It is now eight P.M. and I feel pretty well. These would not have come perhaps, had I taken the usual quantity of anodyne. I am trying to get along with as little as possible.

April 8: Monday.

Slept well. Up only four times. Very busy all day. Nothing special to record.

New suicides, murders & embezzlements, the routine news every day, scheming of men for place and power.

Several palpitation attacks.

April 9: Tuesday.

A repetition of Monday. Several palp. spells. The last occurred at 7:12 P.M. and lasted, despite repeated trials with ice-water, until exactly 2 o'clock this morning, six and a half hours.

Sent a good many pamphlets to doctors who seem to be away behind where they should be as physicians. Sent 5 dols. to antivivisection society.

We had a rainy day yesterday and this morning as yesterday's Therm. registered 66° F. I never saw our lawn look more green and beautiful.

April 10: Wednesday.

As stated on the other page, the palp. which struck me at 7 ½ last evening held on till 2 o'clock this morning. Then I slept pretty well until morning. Before breakfast I took 1/8 gr., at 9 ½ started to Consho. Collected money as rent for Joseph, also a month's rent for self. Then went to see Washington Wood to get toll house rent, \$84. Came afterward to the 12 ½ acre lot at the toll gate to see the men at work. Then had a spell of palp., lasted me till 11 ½ A.M. when I had reached home & taken ice-water that checked it a few minutes ago, since which I have taken ¼ gr. and at once sat down to write this. It is now 3 minutes after 12 (noon).

Afternoon. There was a meeting of the W.C.T.U. at Helen's. James took Mary to Helen's per request to be at the meeting & stay to supper. She had a very pleasant time.

April 11: Thursday.

Slept well last night, but had to rise often and was weak & uncomfortable enough just from the weakness.

Fine bright morning, yet pretty cool out doors. Wrote several letters last evening, got two this morning.

At 10:42 met dau. Frannie at Spring Mill station & brot her home. Susan, too, had come before we reached home. I not knowing that Bertie Day was coming with her mother, she had to walk from Spring Mill as little Richard & his mother [was] all I could bring in a small carriage.

At 4 P.M. they all went away, Susan's man having come to take them to the station. Now 5 P.M.

April 12: Friday.

Slept well last night. Pottering around directing affairs, reading Press, &c., &c., till noon. Only one letter, from Mrs. Lovell of Bryn Mawr. Palp. at 4 P.M. Then took 1/ gr. [1/4 gr.] after I had stopped the palp. by the ice water, which was quickly done. From that time till 6, supper time, was out all the time with the carpenter & Jimmy fixing up every little thing that needed repairs [or be] cleaned up to be pleasant to see, or look upon rather.

Had a man, two women & one 15 year old girl to see me and get advice for the girl. I recommended Tinct. Black Snake root, from Bakers. She was suffering from the multiform affections which the Grippe leaves behind it. I could not find real disease, but a perversion of the normal duties of the nervous system, which I think can be benefited by this valuable remedy so well tested by me in St. Vitus Dance. I made no change for advice. Indeed it is a real comfort to me to aid such persons, as they are poor, just able to keep from debt by industry & economy, and the doctors have gotten to charge too high, so high that such people are afraid to begin to "doctor," not knowing how long the case may be kept under his care.

Palp. at 3:45 P.M. Took water at once. Stopped it. Then took $\frac{1}{4}$ grain [morph.], at bed-time $\frac{1}{8}$. Went to bed at 9 P.M.

April 13: Saturday.

Up at 20' of six. Had palp. once in the night. Slept very well. Strange dreams, but all dreams are strange. Mine are seldom disagreeable.

3:20 P.M. Miss Catharine Forwood has just come to see us. James brot her from the Cars. at Sp. Mill. Very rainy all day.

Letters came from Joseph, Mrs. Jarrett, about a poor family, and two business ones (letters). Palp. once today.

April 14: Sunday.

Beautiful morning. Slept pretty well. Good appetite for breakfast of eggs, potatoes, toasted bread, coffee, butter & milk

Jimmy says we have 16 chickens just ready to set out in coops.

9:30. Have been to see the color'd family which I find to be the gd. son of old Dr. Aaron Adams, a former slave who after getting to Pa. got a small hut on Schuylkill Hills of Sp. Mill, to whom I afterward sold 2 acres of land for \$100. For the 5 remaining acres I got \$200 an acre. To come back to the one whom I went to see, I find he is James Aaron Adams, gd.son of the old Dr. The Dr. as we called him used to gather herbs, make infusions of them and with large jugs filled with these infusions, prevented from fermenting by addition of whiskey, did quite a "practice" in the region around.

Those whom I have just visited are very poor. Have buried two children recently, live up stairs in a house cold & damp below them. I must report to the "Guild."

10:30 A.M. After getting home from seeing the color'd people, felt very weak & tired so took $\frac{3}{16}$ th of a $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. morph. & went to bed. At 10:15 got palp. in bed & had to rise & take ice-water which took it off at once.

Jay & Susan left for home at noon, and we went to dinner immediately after. I did not feel well, had not all the time they had been here. I therefore took only a little salad and half a dozen (exactly) tablespoonsful of beef broth and was waiting to take a small piece of custard pie when I was taken with a spell of palp. again. Went to the bath-room to get ice-water. Took two large drinks without avail, but in a few minutes it left. Then I lay still & got asleep, awaking at 1:40 P.M. Then while writing here, Jim Cresson came in, he had come down on a bicycle.

Palp. at 8:40. 2 tumbler full stopped it. Took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph. Slept very well.

April 15: Monday.

Having palp. so frequently from 10 A.M. yesterday until 8 P.M., and fearing it would be repeating during the night, I took more medicine than usual, $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. & $\frac{1}{8}$ in the whole day. The last dose, after 8 P.M. settled the matter and I was comfortable when awake, a very short time between naps.

A most lovely morning

2 P.M. Have just had a spell of palp. I did not, as I intended to do, take $\frac{1}{8}$ more of sulphate before eating dinner. Had I, perhaps the spell would have been averted. However, as soon as the water arrested it, I took of $\frac{1}{4}$ a grain. Possibly that may keep it away until the evening dose shall be taken.

April 16: Tuesday.

Slept pretty well. Several naps. Before 4 A.M. when palp. struck me. Water stopped it. Went to bed. In half hour another spell. Water did it. Then took $\frac{1}{8}^{\text{th}}$ of gr. After breakfast at 8 A.M. a spell of only a few minutes. Then [took] $\frac{1}{8}^{\text{th}}$ & one sixteenth. I felt that I ought to stop them for the day. Will see if that dose will do it. I am trying hard to get along with as little sulphate morph. as possible to avert the attacks. It seems now to be a struggle to do that.

Had a thankful letter from C. C. Harrison, Provost of the University of Pa. I had sent him three letters, one from Senator Saylor and others from two of our Co. Representatives, very willing to vote the appropriation of \$100,000 for the University of Pa. The others, our Reps., will also vote as I requested.

9 P.M. Had a spell of palp. at 7 o'clock P.M., another at half past eight. Took water both times. At 4 P.M. Mary and her guest Miss Katharine Forwood went to Helen's to tea. I took them in the carriage. When I got home and was busy with my men, the A---- came and at the same time David Paxson & his wife Ann Evans Paxson, daughter of my friend & first cousin John Evans. When they left, Lizzie Marple, Mary's seamstress came.

When I was a boy there lived in Captain Daniel Davis' family his mother-in-law, whom we all called aunt Polly Marple. She was the only daughter of my father's father Benj'n Corson. This girl, who called today, is her gt.gd. daughter.

April 17: Wednesday.

Was awake many times in the night and, of course, up every time. At one o'clock in the night was awakened by palps. Had to come down stairs to get the ice-water as I had forgotten to take it up with me, having sat it on the Refrigerator out on the piazza. The trip down and up stairs worried me greatly. The ice-water! O! the ice-water, what a blessing! Slept fairly well until sunrise (with the usual getting up interruptions of one and a half hours.

Up & dressed by six o'clock and now, 6:50, here writing. I had prepared $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph. to take should the spell appear, but I did not take it after having the spell. Felt uncommonly weak all day. At one P.M. lay down on the lounge, awakened before 3 P.M. and felt that I must take some stimulant, or anodyne, but did not. I am afraid that though I have taken less than $\frac{1}{2}$ a gr. per every 24 hours, that perhaps it is my effort to do without even that small amount that is now affecting me.

April 18: Thursday.

Felt very weak after breakfast, but was desirous not to take any morph., that I hold on till after breakfast. Had a spell of palp. at 2 A.M., took it off and had no more till morning. After breakfast I felt greatly the need of the Mariana Tonique, but as I have none, concluded to do without it. So I only took 1/16 gr. morph. & 1 ½ oz. Tinct. Gentian. It is now 5 P.M. and I have resisted taking any medicine, and this afternoon when reading a medical paper, I read that coca was a strong stimulant and anodyne, as hurtful to the habitual user as caffeine, &c. So I have determined to take no more. I never took a half dose as they recommend, the makers of it. I thought by its very stimulant effect on me that it would make me real toper. Ellwood had commended it so strongly that I had tried it. Then was [taking] a wine glass-full three times a day. I did not generally take more than about one third of that, and then occasionally.

6 P.M. I have struggled along through the day without any medicine, going out every half hour or hour to see the man making fence and after 3 P.M. with the boys directing them in their cleaning-up operations on the lawn and in the orchard, and now since I have had supper I feel better than at almost any time during the day.

9 P.M. Have felt the need of the Mariana, or of some morph. I can't keep my limbs still if I lie on the lounge. I fear it will be so too when I go to bed, as it was to allay that nervous condition and inability to sleep that was my first reason for beginning to take it, but then 1/8 gr. would allay it nicely.

April 19: Friday.

9 A.M. No palp. last night, but I was so unfit to go to bed without a something to stop my right leg from its nervous jerks, that I took a quarter gr. morph., despite my strong determination to try it without. So, was comfortable & slept well.

Just after I got down stairs this morning, I had a spell. Three times at short intervals I took the water in vain. Then I went to breakfast with the three tumblersful of ice-water in my stomach. After breakfast went up stairs to bed and soon the palps. ceased.

At 9 A.M. took 1/8 & 1/16th. The 6 figure, at 2 P.M. 1/8th, at 8 P.M. 1/8th. Had a palp. just before bed-time.

April 20: Saturday.

Slept well. Up at 5:30 A.M. Breakfast and over to see Helen who was having a sore throat last evening and sent here for ice. She is better now. The ice did give much relief. After mail time I took Mary in the carriage round Barren Hill & Spring Mill & home.

The Ambler "League" sent \$10 to me to dispense in charity to the poor, & I went to see the family of the Gd. son of Dr. Aaron Adams of Schuylkill notoriety, once a slave.

Bertha Yocom came up this morning to stay till Monday. She is an applicant for the position of Teacher of Zoology in the Girls High School of Philadelphia. Sent a letter to Joseph. Rec'd. one from Thomas Adamson, Ex-Consul General, now living at Cedartown, Georgia.

Spell of palp. at 8:30 A.M. Too dull & stupid and weak to allow of any comfort for me. At 4:30 had another attack, but before I got the ice-water, it went off while

walking up stairs for it. After that I took an eighth and a sixteenth, and now at 6:20, and after a light supper I am feeling much better. No doubt the morph. has had an effect.

There have been a number of First-day Schools from many "Quaker Monthly Meetings in conference. A kind of shanty lean-to was made of rough boards at the men's end of the Meeting House & furnished with eatables, so that every one who needed could have a lunch. Two of the ladies from Ambler brought to me a basket full of food & some dry goods to distribute to the very poor. Two others also came as merely friends, complimentary visitors. The first two were Dagers from Ambler Relief Committee, the others Miss Ella Thomas & sister, Norristown.

April 21: Sunday.

I rose after a very comfortable night at 6:20. Gave myself a thorough change of underclothing. When dressing, I was surprised to see what a mere skeleton I am. I feel better than at the same time of day for a whole week.

The morning is a lovely one. The sun so bright, the grass so green, the buds since yesterday morning have pushed forward wonderfully, but not a blossom has yet appeared. I feel as though on such a beautiful a morning I ought to take a carriage ride. Yet I am weak and indisposed to go.

A beautiful Robin red breast is hopping about just outside of my window, looking for some venturesome earthworm to put his head out of the hole in the ground, for a breakfast.

Ten A.M. Spell of palp. Took ice-water; stopped it. Then took 1/8 gr. So I have now taken a quarter grain today. Went to the barn and found the two old and valuable horses, Sorrel and Gray, with their heads stretched over the lower half door, wanting to get out to roll & sport, so let them in the smallest of the three lots, in the orchard and lawn. Then let out three hens with their chickens. How delighted they seemed to be free. I never expect to have again the strength of even a few months ago. I am weak and weary from an utter "wearing out." Even this brief writing wearies me.

I could not eat any dinner and felt so utterly weak that I went up and lay down on the bed. Soon was told that Chalkley Styer & Jesse Holmes from the George School were waiting to see me about the minerals. Spent half an hour showing them and telling Friend Holmes what I might send in addition to the boxes already sent. Then I lay down again, but was soon called up to see Tacie and Dr. Ellwood's wife Maggie. After they had gone, Susan brot me half an ounce of the "Mariana Tonique." For half an hour or so, its stimulant property gave me apparent strength. Since three o'clock I have walked around a little out of doors, but have no relief from the weakness.

It is now nearly 5 P.M. and there seems to be no appetite for any kind of food, and my weakness is so great that I feel the horizontal position is the only one in which I can be even tolerably comfortable, save when I am writing here, and of course there is not much to write, and even this little wearies me greatly. What the outcome will be tomorrow morning I know not, but be it what it may, I must meet it with "becoming fortitude."

9 P.M. I felt that there was nothing that I felt that I could take for supper. Then Mary Cunningham said there were some cold, raw oysters. She got eight for me and they tasted good. Bertie Yocom found half a bottle of the Tonique Mariana, and I took half an oz. before supper. Now I think myself a little stronger.

April 22: Monday.

Palp. soon after 10 last night. Took the ice-water with instant effect. Slept off and on occasionally. I forgot though to say that though I took $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Mariana as I was about to get in bed, it did not serve me. I had taken no morph. since ten o'clock and for half an hour or so, my legs jerked so badly while waiting to see if Mariana would compose me, that I had to take $\frac{1}{8}$ & $\frac{1}{16}$. Then slept pretty well and was comfortable. Had an attack of palp. about 3 A.M., but I lay still for a while and it stopped.

I am feeling a little better than I did yesterday. Was up at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. Went to P.O. in the carriage and got several letters. Then at 10:20 rode to the field to see how the work was going on and down to John Pugh's feed store near the R. R. Road depot to buy oats to sow.

Since dinner, have remained at home. Dr. Ellwood came at 4 P.M. He was on his way to a Consultation on Mrs. Charles Heber Clark's wife. He will bring me medicine tomorrow to take instead of morph.

April 23: Tuesday.

After Ellwood went away, and after he and I had called before us the many cases in which persons apparently well and healthy had gone, because of slight pains or rheumatic feelings to carry the morph. habit to sad extremes, though not referring at all to my case as the amount I am taking seemed so trifling. I say after this I concluded that whatever might be the result, I would try to stop taking any, and though I might not sleep any, I would try the night without it. I would as a comfort to me, lie on the top of the bed without more than a single cover.

I did so. To my surprise I slept as well as usual. Though whenever I have before tried to get to sleep without taking, or having recently taken my usual small dose of $\frac{1}{8}$ gr., my right leg would begin to jump & twitch so that I would have to get up & take the med. Then I could go to sleep.

So, though I had done without any medicine all day, I determined to go to bed without any as already stated. So just lay down on the bed under a single cover with all my clothes on but my hat.

Slept well. Quite as well as usual. About 10 o'clock I got a palpitation after having been lying on the lounge a while. It was so prostrating that when I rose to go up stairs for the ice-water, I could not walk even to the door to call Tildy to get the water for me, without supporting myself by the hands on whatever I could reach. Never was I so weakened in all my fifty & more years of palpitation. But when the ice water was brought, I was quickly relieved. Then despite Mary's appeals to get James to go for the mail, I slowly walked out to the barn, had the carriage got ready and went. After coming back it was soon time to go for Frannie Day and little Richard, so I took Mary and went for them. Prior to going there, though I took $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Mariana. I got through with these rides some how, but with no improvement of strength.

Since coming home, Mrs. Dr. E. M. Corson & a cousin of hers called and brot some medicine for me from Ellwood.

After supper. This afternoon I have felt tolerably well and the visit from Frannie & son [was] very agreeable to me. I am so forgetful that I don't know whether I should spell agreeable with two ee's or one. Before supper I took my 3rd dose of Elixir of Iron,

Quinine & Strychnia 1/60, each of the others 2 grs. to the dose. Frannie has gone. A bad spell of palp. just half an hour ago.

April 24: Wednesday.

6 A.M. Went to bed last night without taking any medicine, but even before I went to bed I felt the nervousness in my right leg, and when I got into bed, it soon got to twitching and jerking as it did before I began to take any morph. at all. I bore it as well as I could for an hour and a half, till 10:30. Then I took one of Ellwood's 10 grains powder of sulphonal. Saw no effect from it, but waited, oh! how restless until 12:30. Then took an eighth of a grain of the weak solution of sulph. morph. Pretty soon my restless leg became quieter, and after a time I slept. It was then two o'clock. I had a couple more naps and at five got up. It was a most worrying night. The morph. is evidently the needed thing to give me rest & sleep, and I will take it at bed-time if at no other.

After breakfast. Quite soon after a seven o'clock breakfast, I went in the carriage, Jimmy driving, to Norristown to [make] a codicil to my "will," in which I made as Executors my son Joseph and my daughters Susan, Bertha & Frannie. I copied it from a draft made by John and had it witnessed by John J. Corson and Charles Edward Foulke. Got home by eleven o'clock, but while in Norristown palp. attacked me and despite water from the Refrigerator, these cont'd. until I reached home. Then the water as prepared by Tildy did it at once.

Was about 2 hours taking a nap after dinner, then around with Geo. & Jim showing them what to do. At 4 P.M. while dau. Susan & niece Martha Jones were here on a visit to me, had a spell of palp. again. Both yielded to the ice-water, and I staid up until supper time.

After supper wrote quite a long letter to Joseph, principally about my condition of weakness. But while writing it, I began to feel like myself of a year or more ago. All the uncomfortable feeling which has held me as in a vice, is that the way to spell the word? was gone. And now that I am ready to go to bed, it remains.

April 25: Thursday.

Slept quite well. When awake several times was comfortable, but at one o'clock got palp., got the water which was ready in a tin-cup filled to the brim with broken ice. A heavy drink and I was well again. Awoke at 5 feeling slightly oppressed. Got up and when on my feet found myself with a violent spell of palpitation. Made my way, staggering as I went, to the waster, took it and stopped it at once. And now at six o'clock I am here writing.

Will take 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. before breakfast, also with it [a] teaspoonful Elixir Quinine 2 grs., Iron 2 grs., Strychnia 1/60 of a grain and should I live to execute it, will do this three times today.

After breakfast went to Norristown and did several matters, but did not once get out of the carriage. Jimmy did by proxy what I needed to do. Home at eleven. After dinner had a nap. Up at 2 & walked to the barn to see the men at work. Was struck by palp. The water was effectual and I am, now ten minutes after it was over, here writing. Nothing special occurred after this, save that I rec'd. four letters, long ones, two of which needed replies. One of them was from Dr. Alexander Craig of Columbia, whom I had

recommended as a proper person for Gov. Hastings to appoint to be a Trustee of the Hospital at Harrisburgh. The letter informed me that he had been appointed and been confirmed by the Senate. He wishes me how to suggest a proper course to take, what to undo and what reforms to advocate.

April 26: Friday.

Wm. P. Ely came a few days ago to come at 2 P.M. today to witness Arbor-Day exercises at Spring Mill School. I could not go as I was all the forenoon at Norristown on business, and since dinner Frannie has been with us.

At noon Sam'l. Emlin & wife came to see us, piloted from Norristown by gd. dau. Anna Cresson. Half hour's pleasant visit, then dinner, then Frannie until 4 P.M. when Mary and self took her to Sp. Mill R.R. Station.

Wrote to Joseph again. Want to write to him every day or two while I continue so weak. Palps., had 3 today. One while at John's office in Norristown, which the water quickly stopped; one after dinner while lying in bed, but which stopped in a few minutes, and one after supper that the water stopped.

Joel Lare [Lair], a preacher among Hicksite Friends, is dead. As a boy I was at school with him. He was about two years younger than myself. Always a good man. Had quite a pleasant talk with him a few days ago in front of the old Maulsby store, later Jesse Hall's, now Oscar Young's store.

April 27: Saturday.

Up at 6 A.M. after a tolerably good rest during the night. No palpitation. Rainy Day. Jimmy & self boxed up the organic remains which I will send to the George School. I have felt pretty well today, quite a great change for the better since Thursday morning. And owing I think to the three doses of Elixir of Iron, Quinine & Strychnia is the effective agent, but all of them would be inefficient to better me were it not that I take 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. morning, noon and night. It was I firmly believe the stopping from taking these medicines that made me so weak and miserable for a few days.

Bertha and James Jr. came at 4:30 and I was really feeling quite well with a cheering sense of strength.

Have rec'd. from the Secretary of the American Medical Association a request to send [him] or to Dr. King of New York my portrait, Photograph. Dr. King is desirous to have a book or pamphlet for distribution at the annual meeting in Baltimore, a record of the origin and progress of the Association and wishes to have photographs of three of the Founders, namely N. S. Davis, Professor Alfred Stillé and myself in every number. What an honor! How unexpected too! I presume so far as Dr. Stillé and myself are concerned, we have been selected because we are the two oldest persons who were members of the Society at the time of its erection, now living, or perhaps living and still members. Whatever it may be, it is still a great honor.

April 28: Sunday.

Morning, seven o'clock. Slept quite well for me. Rainy night and still raining & misty. I am much stronger than I have been for some weeks, or for a couple of weeks at least. Will take my Elixir steadily. I think the Strychnia is the great tonic for me. Bertie & son and Mary have all just come down to breakfast, so will go too.

Jaywood and Susan came at 10 ½, went home at 12, before dinner. Jaywood's sister Clara Clark is better since Dr. E. M. Corson's first visit.

5 P.M. Bertha & son, Mary & little Jim Cunningham have just started for Spring Mill Station on Bertha's way home. I was ready to go but the day is so damp, the wet East Wind so cold that at the last moment I gave it up. I have been pretty busy looking up and arranging papers on different subjects.

Much stronger and every way better than at this time last week. I had no hope then ever to be as well again as I am today.

April 29: Monday.

Slept better last night than for a year. No one could have been more comfortable. Only awoke three times. I credit this to the medicine, which I have taken steadily for three days, the Elixir with Iron, Quinine and Strychnia. The Strychnia is the important medicine I think. I of course take 1/8 gr. morph. 2 or 3 times per day, but when I did not take the Elixir, that did not seem to be of other value than enable me to get some sleep. How well I feel now. Quite a changed person from myself of last week.

Immediately after dinner, Jimmy took me to the Meeting House to the funeral of Nathan Hallowell, a fine man who years ago had his arm amputated unnecessarily I now think, by one of the Norristown doctors. The carriages began to come into the yard from Philad. just as we drove in at the lower gate. It was quite a large meeting of Friends, larger than it would have been, had it not been so arranged that Joel Lare's [Lair's] funeral was to take place, or the people to meet at the Meeting House at one o'clock. So many who came to be present at Joel's funeral attended this one so as to be ready then, when Joel should be brought in. There was one sermon. They left to go to the grave, and soon Joel was carried into the house. The preacher's bench was filled by six, by me supposed preachers. The house was quite full. I impatiently listened to two, one of whom could not be heard by me. I was anxious to leave but did not decide on doing so before another took the floor. I grew very impatient before he finished, and the moment he did, I rose, took a last look of Joel, whom I had known for 80 years, and came away.

Just before bed-time had a palp.

April 30: Tuesday.

Had palp. at one A.M. Had it a short time this morning at 4. Rose at 5:30. At 6 was at the writing desk, wrote a letter to Dr. Atkinson, one to Bertha enclosing five dollars to pay for tickets as they are so good to come and see me often. Wrote one to Frannie & enclosed \$5 for the same purpose & because of the same dols.

May 1: Wednesday.

Still wet and disagreeable, so that I did not go from home till afternoon, save to the P. O. and then round by George Corson. Afternoon I went down to B. Hill & called to see old George Dyer who is wholly blind and is otherwise infirm being 87 years old. Took my Strychnia Elixir & 3/8 gr. of morph. in the whole day.

Wrote & rec'd. letters and read about 50 pages of Max Nordau's "Degeneration." Sent five Dollars to Bertha & Frannie each as presents to pay fare as they have to come see me now so often.

May 2: Thursday.

Slept well, very well last night. The Medicine acts well with me.

A lovely morning. Oh! how green and beautiful the grass is, and the trees are being out in the richest foliage. Was up before sunrise.

9 P.M. I have been very busy today. At Conshohocken this forenoon to see the men planting potatoes. I then saw the need to have Joseph's Fifth Av. house and the fence in some places mended now when a little repairing would prevent a deal of needed repairs soon as the house has no tenant and boys break windows, fences, &c. So in the afternoon I went after dinner in the big carriage, taking pickets & boards and hammer & nails & saw, and with the aid of one of the men I spent a couple of hours fixing things. Reached home before 4 P.M., but O, how tired!

Isaac Roberts & wife of Sp. Mill came to see Mary & self, soon after I reached home. Had a letter from Frannie Day this evening. Am reading Nordau's book on "Degeneration" in spare intervals from daily work.

May 3: Friday.

Slept well. About the grounds having bare spots sodded. Rec'd. Div. from Phila. Bank of \$30. Forgot my med. till noon. Then took 1/8 gr., also teaspoonful of Elixir. After dinner I started, taking Mary with me, for Norristown. Though it seemed very warm, yet I put on my spring overcoat. Before we got to Harmanville, Yerkes' store, I felt oppressed by clothing & the heat of the day. Went a few hundred yards further, then took off my overcoat. Was still very hot and I began to feel weak and quite unable, as it seemed to me, to go much further and that it would imperil my life to continue the way to Norristown over the rough road and under so great heat as there seemed to me to be in the air, so turned the carriage homeward and reached there greatly exhausted. I then found the Therm. above 80° F. and saw the cause of my weakness. After a rest in bed of a couple of hours, I got up much invigorated. At 4 1/2 P.M. the Therm. still registered 76° F. Had I gone on to Norristown, I never would have reached home alive, I think. Had I taken a dose of Elixir as I should have done, and as was my habit the past two weeks, with one eighth of morph, I think I could have stood it. But I had forgotten to do it. Took it after I reached home, and was much invigorated by the Strychnia of the Elixir, the Iron & quinine, I could not count on as producing a sensible effect. Took another dose before bed-time. Above I have written that I forgot my med. until noon, then took it, but I did not. That with the heat was, as color'd people say, the cause of my "misery."

May 4: Saturday.

Had a good night. Up at 5 1/2 A.M. Wrote and sent away six letters yesterday. This morning at 8 1/2 took Mary with me to Norristown. Stopped to see Tacie; went to see John J.; went to Stahler's for medicine; posted two letters; deposited a check in the Bank. Home by eleven thirty feeling all right. Before starting, had taken a dose of my Elixir with Strychnia & 1/8 gr. sulph. morph., & these enabled me to make the trip without any exhaustion.

Spent the afternoon at home seeing that things were done well by the men.

[May 5]: Sunday.

Up at 5 after a night's good sleep. Read "Degeneration" by Max Nordau. Susan came at eleven by the Trolley. George Parvin, an old acquaintance, came at noon and dined with us and staid till 2 P.M. I had about nine o'clock taken a dose of Elixir and $1/8$ & $1/16^{\text{th}}$ of celestial, in anticipation of having visitors, just as sister Mary Adamson used to do in her last years, if she expected company. Thus I was enabled to keep up pretty comfortably. Daughter Tacie came at 2 P.M. and staid till $1/4$ before six P.M. Then took the Trolley at Harmanville for home. How pretty she looked! She is a sweet looking woman.

What would have been the condition of herself & family had I not stood by her for the whole of her married life, aiding by money & in other matters? The amt. given in rent, debts paid, &c., &c., would amount to many thousands of dollars. Yet how glad I am that I did it! Has paid no rent for years and years.

May 6: Monday.

Up at 5. [It] takes me a good while to dress, was dressed and pressed the Electric button to waken Mary and her aid Mary Cunningham at 5:45. At 6 sat to the writing desk to record yesterday's events, when almost as soon as I began to write, palp. struck me. Resorted at once to ice-water & arrested it.

Have had no palps. for five days, quite a respite. Though I slept well last night, I was up regularly every hour to urinate, or rather when I would awaken, I would immediately feel a desire to urinate, & would do it., then go to bed, drop asleep directly and in just another hour would be awake again.

At 9 A.M. started for Norristown, Mary along. After I turned at Mary Marple, I got palp., so concluded to turn & come home. Just before reaching home, it went off. then I went past the house & up the Ridge turnpike road. Went in with Ellwood to see my nephew Dr. L. W. Read who is not well. Then went to see Charles Hunsicker, whom Ellwood is attending. Poor fellow! He seems unhappy, thinks it very hard to be sick, and especially as the prospect for a return to health is a poor one. Went to Tacie's & left her some potatoes. Went to see my tenant in Marshall St. house, a good tenant, I think. Coming home at noon, had a palp. soon after I left Tacie's, but before I reached home it ceased.

After dinner, I was nearly two hours looking up papers for Ellwood to lay before the Com. investigating the management of the big hospital for the insane at Norristown. Oh! how weary I became before three P.M.

May 7: Tuesday.

Did a great deal yesterday & took almost no rest. Did not sleep very well last night. Had palp. twice but both attacks subsided soon without the water. If when I am attacked I am in bed and just lie still, do not get up and make even moderate exertion, it goes on quietly and often will subside after half hour or so.

Noon. I have been in Consho. Sent two more boxes of Organic Remains and Coal Measures to the George School as freight, weighed 125 pounds, cost 25 cts., which I paid.

8 $1/2$ P.M. have felt pretty well all day. Wrote Joseph and had a letter from him. I am reading in "Degeneration" about Count Tolstoi as a degenerate. Very interesting.

May 8: Wednesday.

Up early. Palp. Used ice-water. Went to Norristown at 8:30; did many things. Home by 11:30 A.M. At one P.M. went to Consho. Rec'd. from Esqr. Smith \$6.65 rent for Joseph. Did several needed things. Home by 4:30, lay on the lounge for nearly an hour. Then rose and on the front porch read "Degeneration" Criticism of Tolstoi's writings. Palp. twice today but went off soon without taking the remedy.

May 9: Thursday.

Another beautiful morning. Now for many days they have all been charming, so mild all the time, not cold mornings & evenings and hot in the middle of the day.

Up at 5:10 this morning. It seemed early to rise but the morning was so bright, the sun lighting up the whole country so grandly that I felt it would be a waste of time to lay longer in bed., so dressed myself and came down stairs.

Frannie I brot from Sp. Mill at 10:44. She had little Dick along. Got home at eleven, after an uncommonly busy forenoon & a good deal of carriage riding.

Staid at home while Frannie was here and took her to the Cars on the Home route at 4:40 P.M. Had two spells of palp., but both went off without delay.

I cannot keep on the line. Am I so blind? No, careless. Therm. at 4 P.M. 88°.

May 10: Friday.

Pretty good night. So hot that no bed-clothes were needed. The past eight or more days have been remarkable, in all being alike every hour of the 24. No wind, no cold air, very high temperature, most delightful weather for me. It is a great comfort to me. As I write now, at 11:30 A.M., the Therm. in the shade is 88°. How different the feeling from that in August when the grass is almost burnt up and the ground like dust. Now though hot as then, yet because of the ground being filled with water, every vegetable, the grass and grain just grow amain and the foliage and blossoms a picture to delight the most phlegmatic of our people.

I intended to go to Norristown today but after a short ride to the P. Office felt convinced I ought not to go. The heat so great, and I so readily exhausted even by a few miles riding in a carriage in a hot day.

5 P.M. I have just returned from Spring Mill where I went for Hiram Yocom who has been very desirous to get to the country to see the apple blossoms. As I came home, met Mr. George Corson's wife Lizzie & Prof. Hayes of Swarthmore. Had a few minutes talk with them. When I was just ready to start from the Station, I was attacked by palpitations. It went off before I had gone half a mile. Had it again before bed-time but it soon went off. James' child injured by the Cars at the "cut-off."

May 11: Saturday.

Weather still unchanged. Had a good night, no palp. Went to Norristown to see my nephew, Dr. Read. Found him much improved. Went to see two gentlemen to see if we can't prevent some nieces and nephews of Genl. Hancock from removing his remains to Arlington. Dr. Read was anxious I should see Mr. Reifsnyder, and ask him to make an article for the public strong in opposition to having them removed and to let Dr. Read go on and repair the structure.

Have reviewed certain papers which are in the N. York Record on treatment of Diphtheria with antitoxin.

May 12: Sunday.

7 A.M. Palp. struck me last night at 12:30 A.M. After waiting quarter of an hour, took ice-water. No avail. Half hour later tried it 3rd time. No avail. Then lay still & bore it till 20 minutes of five this morning, when it left.

Strange as it may seem, the water cooled by the snow-ice does not become cold enough to do the work. That was the kind I had last night. I see a marked difference between that and the water cooled by the bright, transparent, solid ice. I discover the difference as soon as I begin to drink. That never fails me if I have it in its coldest state. It was a trying night.

Bertha, my daughter, came last evening. So she and her son Hiram are both here now. Ten minutes of 9 A.M. while lying on the lounge, struck with palp. Water took it off.

May 13: Monday.

Palp. at one o'clock this morning. Bore it half an hour, then took the water. So cold was it and so much did I drink rapidly that it affected my head as if vertigo was ensuing and then the heat (apparent heat) spread down over my body and legs to my very toes, and as it went down, not in a streak but through the entire flesh, it seemed as pervading as a warm bath, and as it went down through the legs, they yielded and bent just as if I was going to sink to the floor, but as soon as the heat reached the feet, the whole of it disappeared. I have felt it so sometimes before, and when I did feel it, I always knew that the palp. was over.

Slept pretty well and was up at ¼ of 5 this morning. Therm. at 44° at 7 A. M. A great change from the heat of the past week.

9 P.M. I have done but little today, save to go to the P. Office, read the Press, go to Isaac Roberts to sell him the balance of our hay, as we now have plenty of pasture, and with a heavy over-coat on me, to walk about the lots. It has been cold and uncomfortable all day.

Have not had palp. Wrote letter to Joseph. Rec'd. a request from the Secretary of the Woman's Suffrage Association of the County that I consent to be named as one of the Vice Presidents of the Society, rather of the meeting of the Society to be held in Norristown in the DeKalb St. Methodist Episcopal Church on the 21st of this month, to which I consented.

Palp. after dinner. Went off after a few minutes. Very busy all the afternoon having the water troughs and pipes on the house cleaned. They were in a fearful condition. Two coal Scuttles full of pine leaves and stalks we got out. All winter we certainly had but a small am't. of water to get into the cistern, and that was black almost, from draining through this stuff packed in the pipes.

May 14: Tuesday.

Palp., three spells in the 24 hours. Did not affect me very badly though, as I took the water and stopped them and did not go from home. First one at 5 A.M.

May 15: Wednesday.

Palp. at 5 A.M. None through the day. Has been raining the past two days and today so, though very busy at many things, nothing unusual happened.

May 16: Thursday.

It seems that I can only write about the palpitations. I wish to keep record of them. Have had several letters during the last three days, comfortable to me. I am taking things as easy as possible, cannot even read all the medical & other pamphlets sent by my friends the authors, but I get through with the best ones and criticise them as the authors expect I will.

I skim over the Press, but don't try to take it all in. It would require a couple of hours time to do that. It is a real pleasure to me to walk through my lawns and the barn yards and pet the cows & geese and chickens and horses. Both cows will come to me to have me rub them on the face and top of the head.

Afternoon we went to Norristown. I saw John J. Corson and arranged with him to buy a house if I like it on seeing it.

Charles Hunsicker is somewhat better. Tacie was out riding with Mrs. Dyer on the Schuylkill Hills after ferns. Home at four, with nausea, &c. Took two teaspoonsful Paregoric. Had several little matters done to make things look well about the barn, &c.

May 17: Friday.

Palp. twice last night. Therm. at 36° at 5 ½ P.M. As this was about an hour after sunrise and the sun was very bright, not a cloud in the sky, it must be that there was frost somewhere about. In seeing those who were up early, with the sun, they told me that there was a big white frost.

Went to Conshohocken after breakfast, took little Hugh with me. Got home at eleven quite nauseated. I then found that the slight griping with the loose bowels was the cause of my nausea. After dinner I spent 1 ½ hours in bed. Slept somewhat, but still the nausea was with me. I did not bolt the door on the side, feeling that I might possibly die before I should awake. Before two P.M. I was up again and here writing.

Charles Day and a friend came about half past two on bicycles, only an hour & twenty minutes from Clapier St., Germantown. Staid till 4 P.M., looking around at the geese, goslings [goslings], pigs & cows & horses.

May 18: Saturday.

In the afternoon yesterday I began to feel that queer feeling in my right leg, as if it were weak and I could not keep it still. My mind was kept continually on it. It was quite bad through the evening, so uneasy I became by 8 o'clock that I felt I must go to bed, but I kept up for half an hour. Then I went to bed, but first taking 1/8 & 1/16 of morph. But Oh! what a restless time I had. Could not keep my leg still, turned & twisted; changed position; changed places in bed; got up, sat a few minutes in the big chair, then here, then there. Finally about 12 o'clock I put a large thick winter stocking on the leg, then another, its fellow over the top of that. This made the leg feel thicker and better, but I could not rest on one spot or in one position long enough to get asleep, until after one. So it was months ago when after bearing it many nights I resorted to 1/8 gr. morph. sulphate with complete success, and ever since that time I have been sleeping

finely by aid of a little increase of morph., also taking the Elixir of Quinine, Iron & Strychnia 1/60.

This morning I have been very much worried with the feeling in my leg, and though I had almost no sleep even from one o'clock till I got up at six, I have not been able to sleep at all. So at 11:30 I took ¼ gr. sulph. morph. That was just a few minutes ago. Now I am waiting for dinner.

At 1:30 I went to Norristown. When we had got to the cut-off of the Pa. Rail Road, we were stopped from going further. The bridge over the Rail Road and over which the Trolley road passes had broke down carrying the Trolley Car with its passengers down & wrecking the Car and injuring the passengers. We came back to the road near by, went up, came out from the school house road and then I was called in to the house just above the wreck to see three ladies who had gone down with the Trolley Car. They were not dangerously hurt, but the motorman and the conductor were more seriously injured and had been taken to Charity Hospital.

My nephew Dr. E. M. Corson had come up to Norristown in the Car last preceding the one that was wrecked. He had a dread of the bridge and was out on the platform, but concluded it was safer inside, so stepped in. I went to his house to see him on my own account and when I told him, he said he had just got home from passing over it. What an escape!

I hoped that my leg would not worry me so much if I went to Norristown. I went. While there [went] up Marshall St. to Stanbridge to call on Mr. Wm. McDermott, not at home; returned by Tacie's and met the Trolley Car near to the house. This is its first-day from Livezey's to Norristown. It has made many trips. I came home feeling rather better than when starting, but both legs seemed somewhat affected. In the evening I anticipated a most trying night, retired at 9 P.M., not expecting to sleep at all. Palp. just as retiring.

May 19: Sunday.

Had an almost comfortable night. Got to sleep about eleven. Then slept an hour, and so it went all night, awake just about every hour; would then rise, urinate, walk about, go to bed, fall asleep & awake to go over the program again. But still my leg did not worry me. Had palp. at 1 A.M. Water did well instantly, after I had waited in vain for it to stop. At 5 it occurred again & again I took the water with success. After that had it at eleven A.M., but it went off in a few minutes. After dinner at 1 ½ P.M. it came again; staid so long that I had the ice-water brought, but just as it reached me the palp. stopped. Then at 2:35 P.M. palp. came again. Am very weak but the legs do not worry me much with their nervousness.

Six o'clock P.M. Have just had supper. I took Mary & Frannie to Spring Mill Station, the latter to take the Cars for home. Then we went round by the "Godfrey Lot," to see the grass. It is a beautiful four acres crop of timothy. The Trolleys are crowded with people today to see the wreck.

May 20: Monday.

A middling time last night, some sleep after eleven, indeed a good many naps. At 9 A.M. Mary and I went to Norristown. Stopped at Tacie's. More than 1000 people passed in the cars yesterday, the first Sunday since the opening, or

Commencement. Home by noon. Got letters from Carrie Cresson & Joseph. Carrie has been promoted into the class which will be graduated in 1896 instead of June 1897, as the class will be that she was in, a wonderful jump. She seems to be regarded as a remarkably efficient and qualified girl.

Joseph writes from Denver where he had gone to be on a Military Board.

I am very weak. A very short walk makes my knees and the legs below that feel as if I must sit or lie down. I will take 1/8 gr. of morph. more than usual in this 24 hours.

Last night I had a bad spell of palp. at one o'clock. I took ice-water and it stopped. Then in less than 1/4 hour returned. I waited quietly in bed and in less than five minutes it left. From that time until 6 A.M. I had it eight times more, came on, staid ten minutes or less, went off to come and go without my having to resort to the ice-water, but depriving me of rest, and as I had had almost no sleep before one o'clock, I got up weak and tremulous. Then I concluded to take a larger quantity of morph. & see whether it would have effect. I then took before breakfast on the empty stomach 1/4 gr., then at noon 1/4 and before bed-time 1/4, with the result that there was but one palp. during all the day, and I felt strong and well and got asleep soon after going to bed.

May 21: Tuesday.

Had a pretty good night. Of course I had to rise often, but would soon drop asleep again and could lie a while awake comfortably, a thing that was impossible prior to this increase in the doses of Celestial, as I call the solution of morph., only 1/4 grain to an ounce of water. It is now 9 P.M. & I have had but one spell of palp. today, so I will continue to try what the present doses will do.

What I did yesterday and today I need not say as nothing unusual was done and no event of importance took place in which I was concerned. I went to Norristown, rec'd. and wrote letters, &c.

In the evening mail came a letter from General W. [W.] H. Davis who is writing a History of about 60 families of the first settlers of Bucks Co., of which the Corson family is one, wanting me to give him information of them from the time of the first Benjamin who came to Northampton Township in 1726 until the present time.

Another letter came from my nephew, Consul General for 31 years, from Georgia, where he now resides. I forgot to say that it was from Thomas Adamson, son of my sister Mary Adamson. It is a wonderfully interesting letter, as his letters always are.

Also there came pamphlets and a memoir of Martha Morgan, M.D., physician in Harrisburgh Hospital for the Insane. A noble, self sacrificing woman, broken down by anxiety and labor in behalf of her patients, the Insane Poor.

May 22: Wednesday.

Had two palps. last night. Had to take water once. I had only the snow ice, therefore had to take two tumblers full of the ice-water. Have had two attacks today. Had to use the water after waiting half hour, or so, despite my having taken 1/2 gr. before the 2nd attack at 5 P.M. But I felt strong and comfortable under the increase of morph. I cannot be comfortable with less than 1/4 gr. twice in 24 hours. Small as the amount is, I hope that it will continue to suffice, without any increase.

I really think I would not live more than a week, if I did not do something to stay the increasing weakness of my body and hold in check the frequent palpitation spells.

It is now six P.M. and a spell that struck me at 5 P.M. has left me but $\frac{1}{4}$ hour. Did not go away after two tumblers full of the snow-ice-water had been gulped down, but left soon after. I dread the coming night.

May 23: Thursday.

I slept pretty well from ten to eleven, then to twelve & again till one. Then the palp. spell struck me. I waited a half hour perhaps for it to leave, then took the ice-water, but it was not very cold and it failed. Then prepared a colder tumbler full and it served the purpose. Went to bed & in a few minutes it went off; then came back; went off, & so on until four o'clock, when I went down stairs & took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph. and arrested it until now, six o'clock A.M.

What am I to do to avert these spells from coming at night? Nothing has any effect, but sufficient sulphate to make me feel it all through the system. That only requires one quarter of a grain, but it takes, or requires about three doses in 24 hours. Such an amount I have not taken until the last two days, and I see how a neglect to take that amount lays me open to such a condition as I was in last night. A tremulous hand to write with this morning.

3 P.M. Have been to Norristown. Saw John; saw Ellwood and did what was needed with them; saw Tacie. Mrs. John Dyer wants her to go with her to see friends in Chestnut Hill this afternoon.

Thus far today I have felt very well. Have had a nap of an hour since dinner.

May 24: Friday.

Went to Norristown in the forenoon. Saw Ellwood and John and got some money from the latter. In the afternoon potted around at home. Took a little more morph., or rather the weak solution which I have named "Celestial," than I should have taken. I am so forgetful that I fear I may sometime take too much or too often. I am writing on Saturday morning and my hand is somewhat tremulous and my sight not good enough to keep the pen on the lines.

May 25: Saturday.

Took a little more Celestial yesterday and last evening than I should have taken, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ gr. in all. Will be careful today. Have been careful. Twice I have been to Conshohocken to see James sodding the yard of Joseph's lot. He growled about having it all to do himself. "Why," I said, "if you had another man you could not both work at the same piece of sod." "But there are so many other things to do that I am nearly played out," he said. "Well," I replied, "what difference does that make?" "Vary is the comfort in work, much better than the unvarying monotony of one cont'd. labor at the same thing."

His situation is a most comfortable one, sometimes ride slowly up in the wagon for a load of light, horse stable manure, then come home and do a little work in the garden, or the truck patch, then mend a broken fence, or harrow potatoes, &c. What a pleasant variety. He used to shovel lime from morning till evening. It is a delusion common with laboring men to believe as they do, that the profit is all on the side of the employer. What an essential thing to the employed is it to have work! Thousand[s] have realized this during the fearfully depressed times of the past two years, and yet those

who have had work and good wages as my man has had, do not realize and be thankful for the great blessing, having work and good wages, and they continue their growling.

One good thing for me and which silences his growling, now and then, is the fact that he knows, I do not ask him to stay an hour after he wishes to leave.

May 26: Sunday.

Slept well at intervals, or rather with wakeful intervals until nearly two o'clock, then had palp. Bore it half hour or so and then got up and went for the ice-water. Just as it was ready for me, the palp. left. After that had it again, but it went away in a few minutes, then came on and again went away. Finally I dropped asleep and did pretty well till six o'clock this morning. I dream much but they are nearly all comfortable ones and I talk aloud to those whom I see (as I fancy) about me.

9 P.M. There have been several here today, Jay & Susan, dau. Bertha and Dorothea, Dr. Percy Corson, &c. Have had a rather comfortable day.

May 27: Monday.

Slept "about best fashion," but soon as up, felt pain in my stomach and had a watery stool. Then I took two teaspoonsful of Paregoric.; after breakfast as the looseness cont'd., two more. So worked along without much suffering, but not a particle of appetite, and even made attempts to vomit. Ate no breakfast, no dinner, but lay on the lounge or in the bed almost all day.

Tacie came at 3 P.M. by trolley. How pleasant she is. She had heard in the morning that I was sick, so came down.

May 28: Tuesday.

Am pretty well again. I cont'd. to take Paregoric, two teaspoonsful at a time on Monday, to relieve the griping and to stop the looseness of the bowels, so that now I am pretty well.

9 P.M. Have written a brief history of the Montg'y. Co. Corsons for General W. W. H. H. [W. W. H.] Davis, to whom I sent an account of the Corsons now resident in Bucks County. My paper, this afternoon, gives my father's leaving his father's home in Bucks Co. about 1780, his marriage to my mother soon after, the names and a brief history of the children, eight in number, whom they raised. I felt very well while writing the eight pages for Genl. Davis.

The evening passed off in the usual way, receiving letters by the mail and answering some, also in reading the Evening Daily Herald.

May 29: Wednesday.

Busy fixing things about until 9 A.M. then went to Conshohocken lot to see James repairing around the "Gate House." Then from there to Jaywood Lukens' to see Susan. Then stopped a few minutes to see my niece (who is at her sister's to spend a few days and if possible to recuperate, for she has been quite sick). Then went from there to Spring Mill station to meet dau. Frannie Day & her son Richard & bring them home with me.

Had a pleasant visit from Frannie & her son, a cute little fellow. Temp. 86° F. at 2 P.M. Pretty well throughout the day.

May 30: Thursday.

Very warm last night. Slept well. Rose feeling stronger than for a week in the early morning.

2 P.M. Soon after rising this morning I felt a sharp pain in my left side, in the exact spot where I have had it hundreds of times during the time from my first year of Practice until now, and which almost debars one from taking a full breath. After breakfast at 7 ½ o'clock took Mary with me & went to Norristown, called on Tacie, Ellwood, John J., Dr. L. W. Read whose "leg is bad" again; bought some trifles for Mary, some clams for self and got home at noon. Because of the neuralgia in my side, took 1/8 morph. sulph. at starting, 1/8 at 10 A.M. (had it with me), one eighth at twelve & one just now at 2:15. Have been in bed an hour, but no relief. So, despite the fear of an increase of pain, I followed my principle of treatment in neuralgia, "that the muscles of the part affected must be moved," and got up & came down stairs. Now I will engage in writing to General W. W. H. Davis.

June 1: Saturday.

Four o'clock. Being much engaged in various matters, I have done no writing here until now. Today Genl. Davis sent his Newspaper to me with this notice. How erroneous. It almost makes me feel that his book may be full of errors. How hard it is for Historians to arrive at the true, real facts.

Coming back to Thursday's work, I wrote to General Davis who of the Corson family & bearing the name are still living in Bucks Co. Also wrote to him a detailed account of my father's removal from Bucks to Montg'y. Co. and who and where his Gd. children and children are and showed him that in every son & daugh. of Joseph Corson's family were to be found one or more distinguished son or daughter.

Also sent him a Gynecological chart of my mothers Genealogy, the Dickinsons, running back through in England from A.D. 700 to Charles Dickinson of London in the eighth, and from Charles to my mother in the eighteenth. From Charles to mother, the descent was through Friends, and [also] in America.

How he will regard my doing it I do not know, but he is so in love with genealogies that he will be glad of one that stretches through 12 centuries. His letters to me express much admiration for me. So I hope and believe he will receive them kindly.

Niece Helen Hovenden took her sister Ida, her own dau. Martha & myself to Norristown with her two fine, heavy but good traveling horses, leaving here at 6:30 A.M. so as to return before the extreme heat of the day shall be on hand. Home by 10 A.M. Dr. Read still confined to bed. Little Joe Read, his nephew [is] poorly at Tacie's. Helen arranged for some ice cream and cakes for our meeting next Wednesday.

During several days, as well as today, the Therm. has marked 96° F. from now till 4 P.M. The nights, too, are intensely hot.

Bertie, Georgie and Jimmy Yocom, children of daughter Bertha, came to Sp. Mill at 4, here at 4:20. O, how delightful to get to the country!!

June 2: Sunday.

At 6 A.M., Therm. 74° F, at noon 94° F. Jay & Susan came at 10:30. I have done some writing today and have read "Friends Intelligencer." Have felt pretty well all day. Take ½ gr. morph. during every 24 hours, and am thus enabled to sleep

comfortably and be almost free from any tiny spells of palp., for although they come frequently, they have now for the past three days passed off in every instance quite quickly, only a few minutes.

Did not leave home all day, so the horses had all the day for themselves.

June 3: Monday.

Hot! Hot! Up at 10 minutes of five A.M., dressed myself then called the gd. daughters & Jimmy at 20 minutes of six. Very hot morning. Adjusted my papers, cleaned the desk of non-essentials and was then ready for breakfast.

After breakfast took the girls to Sp. Mill on their way home, then went to Consho. & to see Dr. Highley. Home by eleven. Staid at home all the afternoon. A rain in the evening with cool wind.

June 4: Tuesday.

Up at 6 A.M. Slept well. Palp., but it went off in a few minutes. Now, for about a whole week or more I have had about three palp. spells but every one went off after a waiting of only a few minutes. A great relief that I need not take so great drafts of ice-water.

Jimmy aided me this P.M. in cleaning up things in the office, preparatory to the Meeting of Doctors tomorrow. Today has been cool, so cool that I put on a spring overcoat to go to Norristown. Tacie not at home. "Will" on his second day's work for the Provident Life & Trust Co. How anxiously I look forward to his possible success and its being a life work for him.

Went to see Dr. L. W. Read whom I found quite well, ready for going out. Also went to see Charles Hunsicker (Lawyer). Found him much improved, will soon be well, I think. [He] seems very grateful to me for my visits & advice. Says, "I made the doctors follow your plan of procedure in like cases."

Went to see my "Banker," John J. Corson and bothered him to make plain to me where the money he collects for me, and what I carry to him has gone. He is wonderfully good natured and at whatever of trouble, makes me satisfied.

A dull, dark evening, not yet 7 P.M.

June 5: Wednesday.

Very dull, foggy morning. Hope it will clear up. This is the day for the County Medical Society to meet here.

I slept very well last night. What a blessing to be able to sleep. Thousands commit suicide because they cannot sleep but lie for hours awake and restless.

At 2 ½ our meeting was to begin. At two P.M. Dr. Speer came as he wished to get me to sign a certificate in relation to getting his son into the Naval School at Anapolis. Then just about two o'clock the carriages began to arrive one after another rapidly. Soon the meeting was at business, and until five the discussion went on. Dr. Highley per arrangement with me read my published paper of a few weeks ago on Diphtheria, and the members spoke on the subject. It was evident that not one of them had any principles of treatment. Just tried one thing and then another thing because they were good for diphtheria. I then had my turn and showed them how needful it was to establish a principle. Viz., here we have a very rapid pulse, great increase of the heat of

the body, sore throat, thirst, often pain in the head. Why all this? The cause of the disease whether a microbe or some other infectious matter producing the fever, the fever incites the heart to increased action (but nearly all physicians regard the heart action as the cause of the fever, a most erroneous opinion). The fever then is the thing to be attacked. That, then, is my principle of treatment, to reduce the temperature. How shall I do it. No means known to me, so efficient as the application of cold water by affusion on the head, by ice or ice water swallowed into the stomach and by bathing with cold water. All this I pressed on them.

After the discussion, adjourned at 5. Then Helen, Ida and Frannie & Dr. Geo. N. Highley & Dr. Percy Corson furnished every one with ice cream and fine cakes. Every thing passed off from first to last with great satisfaction to all present. There were nearly if not quite thirty doctors present, three of whom were women physicians.

Several of the doctors had never before known where I lived. They seemed surprised that I had so beautiful a place and such a lot of minerals & books.

June 6: Thursday.

Went this morning to Norristown & paid \$6.20 for our ice cream & cakes of yesterday. Did some other little matters. Home by 11:30.

After dinner, a nap of an hour, &c. Went to Consho., called on Isaac Roberts (Bank Cashier), Dr. Highley & Esqr. Smith. Saw Susan. No hope of cure in her sister-in-law, Clara Black's case. Dr. Price made an exploration yesterday and found a cancerous liver. So the case is irremediable. Medicine to make her comfortable is now all that should be administered.

June 7: Friday.

A very cool night. I rose early, 10 minutes before five. It seemed so cold that I thought perhaps there was frost, but on looking found the Thermometer 54° F. I doubt not frost will be reported.

Oh! how well I slept last night. Went to bed at 9 P.M. First awaking at 15 min. of eleven, next at ¼ of 3, next just before 5, when I got up.

Death of Mrs. Mary Wills, wife of Morgan Wills, Editor of the Norristown Herald. She was daughter of my long ago friend Daniel H. Dager and Mary Yerkes. She was quite a talented & useful woman, a graceful and interesting writer, and had traveled considerably. Some of this was in hope of benefit to health, as when she went & spent months in California.

Death of Mrs. Charles Heber Clarke [sic]. She was daughter of Lewis A. Lukens of Conshohocken. A gentle, lovely woman. Daughter Susan, who is married to her brother Jawood Lukens, was strongly attached to her and feels her loss deeply. She died on the 7th after an exploratory operation. It was discovered that she had a cancer of the liver, therefore nothing further was done and she sank away in about 12 hours.

Thus friends fall away from me.

June 8: Saturday.

Had a letter from Genl. W. W. H. Davis thanking me for the information given to him about the Corson family.

It seems strange to me that my limbs are feeling so strong. I can go about the yards, up and down stairs without a feeling of weakness, while only a short time ago, even up to the present week, my knees would seem as though they would give way.

Another change, now for two weeks or three about, I have had a great many attacks of palp. but did not have to take the ice-water, as every one of them went off in a few minutes. How queer it seems. Every day and every night I have two, three or more spells, but in as many minutes they are gone.

Dr. Forster & wife called to see us today, also Mrs. Thorne, a daughter of Charles Stockton who married Mrs. Mary Dager fifty years ago and who lived many years in the big house at the end of our road and the Ridge Turnpike Road. Had her daughter with her to see the old place, the home of her childhood.

I brought dau. Bertha Yocom from the train at 4 P.M.

June 9: Sunday.

Not up till six because I did not wish to disturb the others who think on Sunday morning there is not need to be up so soon. Splendid morning. A letter from Joseph from Wyoming tells me that during the hot days that we had, they were having snow & rain.

4 P.M. At 9 A.M. Dr. Thomas Corson & son and an old friend name Byrnes came from Phila. in the Trolley to see me. Spent half an hour uneasily with them. Just after they left, Jay and Susan came & staid until noon. Then we went to dinner, but I felt much nausea, could eat but very little. After a short time on the lounge, a spell of palp. came on me. I felt unusually weak and miserable, but as for the past ten days, the spells would last but a few minutes, I waited for it to leave, but waited in vain. Then I took a tumbler full of ice-water, but not the coldest, so it did not arrest the action. Then I lay on the sofa and in about 15 minutes the palps. ceased. I then went to bed, but in less than an hour, it came again. I have waited about 20 minutes for it to leave, but it has not done it, so I will now resort to the ice-water. I began to write this while it is on money because often, when formerly I used to have it, before the ice-remedy was discovered, if I would engage my mind strongly the spell would be broken.

9 P.M. The ice-water arrested the inordinate action instantly. Since then I have had supper & have been very clear of it.

James & the children went home by way of the Trolley after supper.

June 10: Monday.

Pretty good night. Palp. once, but the spell went off in a few minutes. Did not rise till 6 A.M. Fine morning.

9 P.M. Have been to the funeral of Mrs. Clara Lukens Clark, wife of my friend Charles Heber Clark of Conshohocken, and have done many other things today. There were a great many genteel, respectable men & women at the funeral. Indeed I do not remember ever seeing so many, and all exclusively of the genteel kind.

June 11: Tuesday.

Had a good night. Only one spell of palp. and that ceased in a few minutes. Went to Norristown and did several things. Home by eleven thirty. Took a good long rest in bed after dinner, for I was extremely tired, arranged many of my papers, labeled

them so as to be able to examine them without opening several packs to find them. Nothing material presented itself as a source of gossip, or better to interest me and now at 9 P.M., I am ready for bed.

June 12: Wednesday.

Slept pretty well. Up at 5:20. No palp. in the night. Some letters from friends. Went to Norristown on business about my houses, and to get money, & have taxes paid by John by the money of mine collected by him.

This P.M. [was] very busy writing papers to send to Genl. Davis on the Dickinson genealogy reaching back to A.D. 700. Mrs. Emily Corson & Mrs. George Corson came as visitors. Many matters of great importance in the Press, but not needing record here.

June 13: Thursday.

6 A.M. Oh! how beautiful is this morning after the rain of yesterday. Now the sun is shining its best, over hill & plane. It calls before my mind the poem of our Phila. poet Geo. Boker. In his "Book of the Dead," in which he writes,

- 1) With Songs of birds and hum of bees
And odorous breath of swinging flowers,
With fluttering herbs and swaying trees,
Begin the early morning hours.
- 2) The warm tide of the Southern air
Swims round, with gentle rise & fall,
And, burning through a golden glare,
The sun looks broadly over all.
- 3) So fair and fresh the landscape stands,
So vital, so beyond decay,
It looks as though God's shaping hands
Had just been raised and drawn away.
- 4) The holy baptism of the rain
Yet lingers, like a special grace;
For I can see an aureate plain
About the world's transfigured place.
- 5) The moments come in dreamy bliss,
In dreamy bliss they pause and pass;
It seems not hard, on days like this,
Dear Lord, to lie beneath the grass.

9 P.M. Several letters rec'd. and sent today. Wrote a good deal, & read pamphlets rec'd. Had palp. last night, which I bore four hours in hope that it would leave without my taking ice-water as has been the case with every attack, dozens of them, during the past 10 days. I finally took the ice-water and instantly was relieved.

Susan here to dinner with us.

June 14: Friday.

2 P.M. Slept well last night. Ate well so far today. Letter from Dr. Allis of Phila. in reference to having my paper which is published in the Proceedings of the 9th International Congress reprinted in the Reporter. He thinks that it will receive sufficient attention as it is. "That good papers wherever published are found out by the real thinking physicians of the generations." Am just up from a good nap of an hour in bed.

9 P.M. Have done somewhat on the genealogies of the Corsons & Dungans. Thomas Hovenden is quite poorly with the affection inside as well as outside of his head. Ready for bed now, after a quiet hour on the piazza with Mary, as Mary Cunningham has come to shut up the house

June 15: Saturday.

9 P.M. Up at 5. Called the girls at 5:30. Breakfast before seven. Busy till 9 A.M. with various matters. Then after getting two letters from Dr. Dolley and Woodward and Lottnop of Washington, the latter to send me Hiram's publications for which I sent the money a few days ago. Went to Norristown. Left a written article for the Herald, entitled "Honor to whom Honor is due," commending the judges of our Courts for their case not to license improper persons. Went to see Tacie, John J. & Dr. Ellwood. Home 10 minutes after 12 noon.

Ate dinner, napped in bed for an hour then went to P. O. at Consho. to get money for Dr. Sumner Dolley's postal order of \$10. Then to Esqr. Smith's to get rent, then to Sp. Mill Station to bring up Frannie C. Yocom, then supper & now ready for bed.

June 16: Sunday.

Up soon after five. Called the family at 6. Read the Intelligencer & Journal. Then went at 9:30 to see Thomas Hovenden with Ellwood & Dr. Oscar Leedom. At 10 went to Plymouth Meeting. No preacher. All quiet & awake; lasted an hour.

The Meeting has dwindled to a mere few since I was a boy. There is scarcely an old man or woman in it now, indeed but few members. After dinner a nap. Up at 2:45. Just then Wm. Kirk Corson, Uncle Joshua Corson's gd. son & wife came from Phila. in the Trolley to see me. Spent an hour with them. He is quite an agreeable man, a pretty good one too, a real Uncle Joshua over again. His wife a pleasant, agreeable woman.

Palp., two spells today. Had to take water both times.

9 P.M. Have had palp. three times this evening. Took ice-water every time successfully, but after the spell was arrested, it would recur again in a few minutes.

June 17: Monday.

Up at five. After going to bed last night at 9 o'clock, the attack came again. I came down, took ¼ gr. morph., then took the ice and arrested the excessive beating of the heart. Went to bed and had no more attacks during the night, but just as I was writing the last line, it struck me again. I may as well write now what I have to say. But for this attack, I feel pretty well, indeed very well. I want to be off to Norristown as soon as breakfast shall be over, to have my man drain the cellar of the Marshall St. house. Whether I can shake off this attack so as to go, I do not know. Will take the water before

eating breakfast unless it leaves. Have taken the ice-water and stopped it. Now for breakfast.

6 P.M. The men, James & Jimmy have dug a ditch for draining the cellar of the Marshall St. house. I did not think they could get it done today. Tomorrow I hope we can complete it by laying Terra-Cotta-pipes in the bottom so that if any water should come into the cellar, it can make its way to the street.

Dr. Wiley & son came here wishing to get some of my minerals. Helen brot some of the Group Photos taken when the Co. Society met at my house. Some of them very good.

What a splendid evening. I had a long and very interesting letter from Genl. W. W. H. Davis of Doylestown and one from Thomas Adamson, my nephew from Georgia, & several pamphlets & Med. Journals.

June 18: Tuesday.

9 P.M. I have had a very busy day. Have ridden in the carriage twice to Norristown, to see James & Jimmy dig a two feet wide trench from the Marshall St. house (which stands on a terrace six or more feet higher than the curb-stone) to drain off the water which often covers the cellar floor. They completed it today. I had to go here and there after needed things. It is a grand thing that now water cannot cover the floor. It can get out as readily as get in.

I also went to see my friend Chas. Hunsicker who seems much better than a week ago. It is a comfort to him that I am interested in his case. Made several other visits. I am, now at 9 P.M., weary & ready for bed.

It is a pleasure to feel at the end of the day that we have done useful work, useful to one's self or to the community, or others.

June 19: Wednesday.

James wanted the horse in order to cut grass, so I could not go riding. Was at Home all day, but O how busy, so many letters & Journals as well as also the Press, &c.

Have begun to make hay. How long ago since I first was filled with joy to be with the hay-makers. And what advancements have been made in the facilities for cutting the grass, with a machine drawn by horses!! the driver sitting at ease all the while merely guiding them aright, and next the spreader drawn by a horse, the machine kicking up the grass and tearing it asunder better than instead of the old-fashioned way of tossing over with forks, doing as much, yes more in an hour than a man working in the old-fashioned way could do in a day. Then, when dry, here comes the horse hay rake, dragging it into heaps faster than half a dozen men could do it, and all the men using these machines sitting comfortably in their chairs. And now, on some farms, the hay is thrown on the wagon by machinery, but not generally here where the farms are small. In the West with their hundreds & thousands of acres, they are a blessing. What a wonderful Century this has been for progress in all directions.

Daughter Mary has great enjoyment in having her niece Frannie Yocom with her. I bought and rec'd. several of Prof. Hiram Corson's publications today.

Two palps. today; had to take ice-water.

Bought a handsome box to hang in Mary's room to put letters & papers in, of a poor boy & girl whose father can't work. It is a curiosity only 30 cents, for pity's sake.

June 20: Thursday.

The books of Hiram Corson, Prof. at "Cornell" are Introductions to the study of Robert Browning's Poems; Primer of English Verse; The Aims of Literary study. Gave \$3.25 for the three. The Study of Shakespeare I have and the "Study of Browning." One copy I gave to Dr. Weir Mitchell two years ago.

It is very warm weather now, but still not so burning as the hot days of August when the grass is "burnt up" and the earth is as dry as powder and dusty. Every thing is fresh and green now. Water abundant too in the streams.

Thos. Hovenden still poorly and in bed.

Palp. spell at 5:30 P.M. Had to take ice-water. Have been reading Prof. Hiram's "Aims of Literary Study."

Thomas Yocom & his friend Mr. Darby spent the evening here.

June 21: Friday.

Slept pretty well and rose feeling not so weak as on many occasions. Finished reading the "Aims of Literary Study," by my nephew Professor Hiram of Cornell. It were better, possibly, to say Prof. Hiram Corson, as some reading this a thousand years hence would think it meant a professor whose last name was Hiram. Not much fear of that. I took 1/8 gr. less Celestial than usual today. How it will do I do not know, but fear I will not be able to get to sleep, and if I should, will likely have spells of palp., as has been the case every time I have tried to get along without my usual amount in a whole day, 1/2 a gr.

Charles Foulke came from Norristown at 7 P.M. on his bicycle and staid with Mary & Frannie Yocom till nearly nine P.M., just as I was ready for bed.

June 22: Saturday.

As I expected, I did feel a nervous jerking in my leg, (Had tried to do without a full dose of the anodyne, the Celeste) and at 10:30 found the palp. on me. After waiting 1/4 hour, took ice-water and stopped it at once, but in half an hour, it was on me again. Took the ice-water again with success. Former experience had taught me that I would likely have it four or more times before morning, should I not take a little morph. So took 1/4 gr. and from that time until morning felt fine, had no spell and am feeling well now 8 A.M.

I took a bath at 5 1/2 A.M. Gave myself a good scrubbing and feel much better for it. Have worked about three hours this P.M. in arranging the Corson, Dungan & Wright papers on Genealogy.

Have had palp. twice. I feel best when I am writing. It is pretty hard though to get up will-power to do it. How changed I am! How I used to be able to hold on all day, reading. When I was in Dr. Corson's office as a student, I could go on hour after hour poring over the books, and even after I had begun "Practice," would stay up till midnight or near that time, reading, reading, and no sense of weariness.

June 23: Sunday.

When I went up stairs last evening to go to bed, I felt a disposition to lay down with my clothes on and did so. I have not for a long [time] had so good a night's rest. Was awake less frequently than usual. Though awake at 5 A.M., I concluded as it is

Sunday, to not get up so soon. At 6 A.M. I was awake again with a heart palpitating its best. Waited a while, say 15 minutes, but as it cont'd. to palpitate, went down to the refrigerator & took the water. Instantly I was well.

Jay & Susan came as usual just after 10 o'clock and staid until noon. At 11 ½ while we were talking pleasantly on the piazza, an attack of palp came to me. I did not delay but at once went to the refrigerator and took a tumbler of the water. Instantly I was well again. What a strange thing is the power of the cold water on my nervous system.

It is now 2 P.M. and I have had a nap of one hour since dinner, but still I am weak and weary and don't care to even engage in much conversation.

3 P.M. Just a few minutes ago, I had an attack while conversing on the piazza, but I kept still and waited for the result. In about five minutes it went off, and I came here, took a small dose of Celestial (1/4 gr.) and one teaspoonful of the Elixir with Strychnia, quinine & Iron.

Richard H. Day, Frannie's husband and their son who last week carried off the prize of being the superior scholar in the Germantown Academy came up before dinner. He is now ready to enter a Freshman in the Literary Department of the University of Pa.

June 24: Monday.

Up at 5. Dressed slowly as I did not want to knock for the others to get up so early. At 5 ½ finding "Tildy" was up, I awoke the two Mary's and Frannie Yocom, then went down, cleared up my writing desk from its accumulation since Saturday, and after breakfast at seven A.M. began to re-write and adjust as well as I could the numerous scraps of written information concerning my four genealogical lines, a perplexing work, to get the various accounts in the chronological order.

I kept steadily at the work until 11 A.M. then read the "Press," ate dinner and resumed work until 3 P.M., rested an hour, then at it again till 5 ½ P.M.

June 25: Tuesday.

Up at the usual time. Feel pretty well; had slept well. The man & Jimmy went at the hay. I rode down there (to Consho.) at 10 A.M. When I came home found Susan and Frannie both here. Worked along through the day with only two palp. spells.

Had a letter from Joseph. Will get away from the "Great West" as soon as he can do so in accordance with the rules regulating surgeons in the Army. I think from what he said in his letter that he will try to get here soon. I hope he will. But I do not want him to come, if by doing it he should in any way jeopard his salary.

I did not do anything with the genealogies yesterday, because the night before, I could not get the subject out of my mind after going to bed, but I will put myself to the work as soon as breakfast shall be finished, work during the forenoon and do nothing more in the afternoon so as to get the thing off my mind before I go to bed.

June 26: Wednesday.

Slept well. Up at 5:10, called the folks at 5:30. Went to the writing desk at 6. Breakfast at 7 A.M. Resume my work on the genealogies immediately after breakfast and cont'd. till noon. Then after dinner took a nap, or at least a rest on the bed for quite two hours. Then went at the genealogies again till now, 6 P.M.

Oh! what a botheration to call the proper chips out of such a collection of scraps of history, furnished by so many different writers.

There could hardly be a more beautiful, refreshing afternoon than the one which is giving way, receding before the coming night. The sun so bright, and the finest conceivable breeze from the South with a Temp. of only 76° Fahrenheit at 6 ½ P.M.

O how lovely the country looks!!

June 27: Thursday.

I had letters this morning from Genl. W. W. H. Davis and from Rev'd. Charles Schaeffer. He was for a time minister of the Lutheran Congregation at Barren Hill. I will copy his letter here

June 26, 1895

Hiram Corson, M.D.

My Dear Doctor

Some weeks ago, Mr. Geo. Parvin placed in my Hands two pamphlets of which you are the author, and for which I desire to offer my sincere thanks to your own kindness.

I have read them both, Measles, and Hydrophobia, and have been much impressed and interested with what strikes me as the originality of your views and the logic and the scientific arguments by which they are enforced. I congratulate you upon being able to render such valuable service, with your pen, after so many years of active service in your noble profession. May He in whose hands our lives are, yet grant you years of comfort and a peaceful end.

With highest regards yrs.

C. W. Schaeffer

He has the title of Dr. Schaeffer and is the very head of the Lutheran Church in our State, possibly in America.

June 28: Friday.

Slept well as usual. Rose at 5. came down at 5 ½. Began to read sitting on the dining room piazza when old Palpitation struck me. I waited a good while then had to take the ice-water. After breakfast began to write and was again struck with palp. Waited a while but as it would not leave, took the ice-water. How strange it seems that I can take such large drinks of such intensely cold water. Drank rapidly with such apparent immunity from harm.

Had palp. in bed once in the night. I mean one spell, but I lay still a few minutes and it ceased.

After breakfast at 7. At 8:30, taking Jimmy with me, as it was wet and they could not work at the hay, I went to Norristown. Saw Tacie, Dr. Lewis Read, John J. Corson, Jos. Read Jr. who has just got to the office (Drug store) after several days confinement from Rheumatism. Made a small deposit in Bank. Deposited a certificate of stock in the "Long Building Association of Norristown," bought some medicine for Mary and a new hat for myself. Got home just at noon, pretty tired. Ate dinner, took a nap in bed, then got up and had some needed things done at the barn. While standing about was taken with a spell of palp. at 4 P.M. Waited a short time for it to disappear. As it did not, took the water and then sat to write this [account].

Nothing more during the evening save a letter from my niece Dr. Sarah R. A. Dolley and reading some on Evolution by Henry Chapman, son of the Prof. Nathaniel Chapman of University of Pa., Prof. of Practice of Medicine when I was a pupil there.

June 29: Saturday.

Promise of a fine Hay-day. Up at 5. Had slept well. No palp. It is now nearly nine o'clock and I have had the boys clearing the lane of every stick and straw on it.

Finished the History of the Children of Benjn. No. 2 & Maria Sedam's children last evening. Will now begin the account of the children of Benjn., my gd. father and Sarah Dungan's children, Benjn., 4th, Joseph, Richard, Thomas, Sarah, Rachel, Jane Elizabeth, Mary, Joshua, Amos.

Just as I wrote this, I was about to write that unlike other mornings when I was used to having palp. as soon as I began to write at 6 o'clock or before that at five, when at 8 ½ it struck me. So now I will wait a while & if it do not go off, will take the water. Take the water and it leaves.

Palp. again at 9:30, take water, all right. Begin to examine and write on one of the genealogical lines; at 9:55, palp. again; palp. after dinner, at 2 and at half past 3 P.M. After this last I took 1/8 & 1/16, and I did it twice before that since morning. So it does not seem to quell it now. Had to take the ice-water every time. Once waited 40 minutes before taking it. I ought to say that I have been steadily writing since the first two attacks today.

5:08 P.M. Have been lying on the lounge half an hour after ceasing to write and was struck with palp.. Got up at once, took the ice-water & stopped it. I will not take any anodyne until bed time, even not then if I am free from palp.

Struck again at 25 minutes after five P.M. while on the lounge. It left in 13 minutes. 9 P.M. I go to bed.

June 30: Sunday.

Had no palp. after 5:15 last evening. Retired at 9 P.M. Had no palp. all night. Slept tolerably well. Rose at 5 ½, slowly dressed myself then wound the clock which stood on the first landing of the big-entry stairway for sixty years and which I have wound every week on Sunday morning, with the rarest exceptions. My father had done the same thing at his home for about twenty years before. He had bought it at the sale of Wm. Stephenson who had lived on the farm so long owned afterwards by Frank Davis, near the now Creamery at Narcissa.

Having wound the clock, I called Mary and Frannie Yocom at 6:10. We had breakfast and I then lay on the lounge and had several naps before 9 o'clock and yet no palp., though I did not take any med. since about 3 ½ P.M. yesterday. I had then made a resolve not to take any until this morning, come what might.

Palp. spell at 6:30; went off in ten minutes.

July 1: Monday.

At 3 o'clock in the night after having had several good naps of an hour each, palp. struck me, but I lay still and in a few minutes it ceased, greatly to my comfort. In a few minutes it was at me again and again off in a few more, and so the third time. Then I got up, went down to Tildy's large tin box and got a piece of bread and ate some of that and

also some sour cherries. Then went to bed and had no more till morning and slept pretty well. But I also took 1/60 grain Strychnia. It had gone before I took the pill.

At 6 A.M. another spell. Took 1/8 gr. morph. but had also to take the water. Had another spell at noon, took another grain, but had to take the water to stop it. At 1:10 P.M. another spell. Took 1/4 gr., also water before it left.

Had cramp badly in my left thigh in the night and it is still quite sore today. Also had a good deal of pain all day under and on top of my left shoulder blade.

It is now 6 P.M. I have suffered very much this afternoon with neuralgia under the lower angle of the shoulder blade, although the morph. was affecting me quite strongly. Have been in bed the past hours with a large & pretty strong mustard plaster on the side. It is off now and has given me some relief.

I am debating with myself whether or not I shall send for some one to give me 1/8 gr. morph. sulph. by hypodermic syringe. Think I will risk it without sending till morning, depending on taking it by the mouth if I need any.

July 2: Tuesday.

Took 1/4 gr. morph. on going to bed. That enabled me to lie pretty comfortably till morning, though the pain in my side was aggravated by the least increase in the dept & expansion of the lung. But as I knew the pain was a neuralgia and not caused by inflam. of the lung, I was content to lie still. So got through the nite pretty comfortably, as I had taken 1/4 gr. more morph. than I was used to take. Near to five o'clock I had a palp. which left in a few minutes. The soreness of my thigh in which I had cramp annoy me much.

July 3: Wednesday.

Had to rise in the night and take a small dose, only 1/4 gr. to arrest an increasing neuralgic pain in my side & shoulder. Slept pretty well afterwards. Up at 5. Promise of a fair hay-day.

Ellwood came about 8 o'clock last evening, but I had gotten so impatient, and I so feared the increase of pain, and his coming was so uncertain that I took 1/4 gr. of sulph. morph. by the mouth. Soon after he came, but left nothing for me, as he said that he knew nothing that would give me relief as surely as morph. sulphate.

At 10 A.M. palp. Waited a while, then took water. That arrested the excessive action at once. Then I took 1/8th & one 16th sulph. morph., my neuralgia in the side was calling for it.

Jimmy brot me from the P. Office a long letter from Robert R. Corson, who is now in Venice. It is an interesting one, in as much as it deals with things & places not much known to me., as well as his account of the treatment in the hospitals for insane people, especially female insane, and the prisons. I replied to his letter by sending another which I began at once and finished before dinner time.

Several palps. today & last night.

July 4: Thursday.

Opened in the early morning pretty fair, but at noon began to rain and the tens of thousands who were prepared for a great holiday's doings were grievously disappointed, as the day grew more and more disagreeable, and in the evening when great displays of

fire works was to be made, there was an utter absence of even the sharp noise of the crackers. It was a dull, rainy evening. It suited me well though.

July 5: Friday.

The wet Fourth saved some from sudden death, and hosts rose from their beds in better condition than if they had been "having fun" in Saloons all night, as they would have had, had the evening & afternoon been free from rain.

As no hay could be made today, I went to Norristown and deposited checks for \$159 in 1st National Bank and did several needful things.

Have had four spells of palp. today and had one last night. Had to take ice-water in only two as I waited a good while in all of them to let them have a chance to leave.

Just after dinner today we had one of the heaviest showers I have seen for a year.

I have copied from Robert R. Corson's letter rec'd. from Venice quite a long and interesting account of the treatment of the Insane by the Catholic Sisters in the Monasteries in Venice & other places. Want to add remarks and then have it published in the Daily Herald or in the Phila. Ledger.

9 P.M. I have had six spells of palp. today. Three within the past few hours. I will now take ¼ gr. morph. & go to bed.

July 6: Saturday.

6 A.M. Rain not yet over, very dark & wet. I slept quite well. Up only five times. No spell of palp., thanks to the quarter grain.

6 P.M. Went with the boy Jimmy to Conshohocken to Joseph's Fifth Av. house to have it cleaned and the broken window glass renewed with new ones. The father, James and his son Jimmy worked faithfully at it. Came home at 11:30 very tired, lay on the lounge till dinner time and was greatly refreshed by it. Since dinner had a spell of palp. about 1 ½ [P.M.], again a spell at 4 ½ P.M. Had to resort to the ice-water both times.

Was actively managing things about home till supper time. The supper is just over. Sold a barrel of my vinegar of two or more years ago. Have about 12 barrels yet on hand. Will now go on disposing of it.

July 7: Sunday.

6:30 A.M. Had no palp. last night. Slept quite well. As Helen & Thomas Hovenden have gone to Richland, a Summer Resort, to see Ida, and Jawood Lukens and Susan are at the sea-shore, I feel pretty lonely. Not that I care for company for myself, but as it is so desirable to have it for Mary, I like to have some one here, beside Mary Cunningham, who much of the day is away.

4 P.M. Mrs. Sara Oberholtzer and her son who has just returned from Germany, where in Rostock, a Country Village he has been at one of the High Schools for a year or two. His mother and his father John Oberholtzer and another son all being in Germany. The 2nd son at a University & the parents going from place to place on the Continent. The mother & son John, now a Doctor of Philosophy, came at two o'clock and from that until now 4:10 have been entertaining me most pleasantly. Pleasant as they were, two hours of talk carried on without a pause, I may [have] wearied me greatly. I feel it now that they have gone.

Mrs. Oberholtzer is a very pleasant, talented woman and quite a poetess. She is giving her boys fine opportunities to make themselves useful in the world. Spell of palp. at 11 A.M. Had to take ice-water.

7 ½ P.M. I have finished my article for the Ledger.

9 P.M. We have been sitting on the piazza watching the Trolleys as they go up and down the road from Plymouth to Barren Hill, what a sight!! Cars that look like a mass of five forty or fifty feet long and twenty feet high passing every few minutes on the Turnpike loaded with passengers, people having fun, singing and shouting and sometimes horn blowing.

July 8: Monday.

6 A.M. Got out of bed at a few minutes before 5 o'clock. Had no sooner got my feet on the floor then I was struck with palp. Struggled to dress myself so as to get down stairs to the Refrigerator, got a tumbler of water, drank it, and was well; then came here to write it.

Went at 6:30 A.M. to wheelwright shop to get repairs done to the reaper. Then taking Jimmy as driver went to Consho. to see how the repairs of Joseph's 5th Av. house was getting along. The paper hanger & carpenter were there. Then took the paper-hanger to Consho. and got the paper. Then went away down Elm St. to get sash with the glass already in, came back with them to the house. Then the man had left a lock, &c. which we had gotten, lay on the counter where we got the paper. So had to ride back to get that, brot it to the house, then made my way, alone, to Norristown, got a check changed, hunted up Matt Lewis on Violet St. to have him cut grain for me tomorrow. Then went to see Tacie and from there came home. I mention all this to see how for so many hours I went on with my work, and I just 90 years and 9 months old this very day. Got home at 11:30.

After dinner went to bed. At 2 P.M. rose, read the Press & some letters from the P. O. and walked around the yards and at 4 ¼ P.M. was struck with palp.

8 P.M. Have written a letter to Dr. Weidman, one to Jesse Holmes of the "George School," one to dau. Frannie and a postal to dau. Tacie since I had the palpitation at 4:15.

9 P.M. Palp. at 8:20. Had to take water. Also took 1/8 gr. morph. more than I have taken at bed-t time or before it. Before it came on me this last time, I had just taken my usual dose, 3/16th. I forgot to say that I had a palp. at 4 ½, which makes four spells today.

July 9: Tuesday.

Slept pretty well, considering how warm it was. Just at 5, palp. spell came on, but I lay still and it went off soon. Now, for the last three mornings the same thing has occurred.

Have been at home all day, worked a good while at my genealogical journal. Felt rather unusually well, not dull & weak. Had a strong attack of palp. about 3 P.M. The water was efficient.

We have all our hay in the barn, put last load in at noon.

Am quite interested in five young ducks. The Goslins [sic] are now almost as large as full size. How strange that I feel such deep interest in them. But it is perhaps a return to childishness.

- 1) Behold the child under Nature's kindly law,
- 2) Pleased with a rattle, tickled with a straw,
- 3) Some livelier play thing gives his youth delight,
- 4) A little noisier but as empty quite, &c., &c.

It is 9:10 P.M., and I have just taken the ice-water & arrested a spell of palp. There is no one in the house but Mary and myself. Tildy & her son, Mary Cunningham & Jimmy have gone to an entertainment at Marble Hall School house.

It is 10:10 o'clock and Tildy and son & Mary Cunningham not yet home. So we will [go] to bed.

July 10: Wednesday.

Fine cool morning with quite a breeze. Up at 5:40 after a pretty good night's sleep. As I feared more spells of palp. in the night, I took 1/8 more sulph. morph. last evening at 9 o'clock, so had no spell.

10 o'clock. Have been to Norristown to see "Matt" & get him at the reaping. When half way back, a spell of palp. came & cont'd. till I got home and was walking up to the house when it left me, that was only a few minutes ago.

And now, only 10 minutes since the spell went off, it is on me again, just as I was about to close the book after writing the above.

At eleven forty-two I was at Spring Mill to meet Bertha Day. I brought her up and then, after pottering around a short time, at 15 minutes of 12 (noon), I had another attack. At 12 now I took ice-water and arrested it.

After the second spell I took as a preventive, 1/8 & 1/16 of sulph. morph., but as seen, it did not prevent a return. I suppose that if I had taken half a grain, it probably would have had a preventive effect; but I don't want to increase fast, so will not take any more now, so as to see if I shall have more today.

4 P.M. As I sat on the front Piazza talking with Tacie, a spell came on me. I sat perfectly still and waited. It went off in less than three minutes.

I took Tacie down to the Pines, the old Roberts' House at Cedar-Grove at 3 P.M. to see Mrs. Cadwalader Evans, who has charge of the poor children from Phila. in their two weeks outing in the Country. Many of the 36 children and seven mothers have never before been in the country. What a treat to the children! They take groups of these poor children for two weeks, and then they are sent back to the City and a fresh group are brought up. Mrs. Mary Wood, wife of Howard Wood is the Patroness.

July 11: Thursday.

Awakened at 9:30 A.M. with palp. and griping. Had to come down stairs and get the ice-water from the Refrigerator. It went off at once. Before taking the water I knocked on the door of Mary's room but neither herself nor Mary Cunningham heard me. Then I knocked on Tildy's door. She heard it and came to the door. I told her I only wanted her to know that I had palp. and was going to drink the ice-water. I have for years had a fear that I might get convulsion by taking so large a drink of such intensely cold water. I therefore like somebody to be with me when I take it, or at least to know

that I am about to take it, so that if I should suddenly die, I would not be charged with committing suicide.

I was unable to take breakfast, as the griping pain in my stomach caused nausea. I sent Jimmy to Norristown to get medicine for me, and since then I have been taking some paregoric & Laudanum to control the looseness & pain of the bowels. Have taken but little morph. Every now & then I took small drinks of vinegar, and of paregoric with a few drops of Laudanum, and I feel stronger than in the morning and the griping is pretty well subdued.

All through the day I was very poorly, but Dr. Ellwood, my nephew for whom I had sent, came in the afternoon and prescribed some things and I took paregoric two teaspoonsful with ten drops laudanum and became pretty comfortable before bed-time. Had one spell that I took off by water and one that staid but a short time.

July 12: Friday.

Slept pretty well. Bowels loose in the morning so took camph. & Laud. No palp. at night. Have been at home writing to my distant relatives, gd. father Corson's children's children for a history of the families. Am much better than yesterday.

The men are "getting in" the wheat.

Have written some letters and worked at my chart.

July 13: Saturday.

Nothing material differing from yesterday. Feel pretty well but very weak. Several letters rec'd. Have to take some Janny's Mixture to hold the bowels under control.

July 14: Sunday.

I ate quite a hearty breakfast of Mackarel [sic], bread & butter and coffee & about 10 o'clock I began to feel nausea and by noon was so much nauseated and had so utterly lost all desire for food, I at dinner time instead of taking dinner took a tumbler full of water with vinegar & Syrup, so strong vinegar that I could scarcely take it except by sips; then went to bed with my clothes on and staid there nearly an hour. Began then to feel better and came down stairs and engaged in writing letters. Jesse Holmes of the "George School" wrote me asking for my address before the State Medical Society in 1853. So I bundled up for him that and my "Report on Stimulants" to the State Medical Society; my "Food for Infants;" my last address before Phila. Co. Med. Soc. on "Pneumonia;" my "Address of Welcome" to the State Medical Society when it met at Norristown and my Report to the State Med. Society "on the propriety of having a woman physician to have medical care of the insane of the sex."

At 3 P.M. I had a spell of palp. After a few minutes I took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. sulph. morph., then lay on the lounge for half an hour nearly. Then got up, took a tumbler full of ice-waster, which settled it to its normal gait at once. Then went round to the front porch, piazza rather, where the seven chairs which had been filled after dinner were empty and I could not find any of the young people [where] Bertha Day, Thomas Yocom and his male friend, and daughter Mary had been enjoying themselves. [Now the chairs] were all empty. I could not find a person around the house. Mary was in bed. The others gone walking probably and Tildy and her son away. So I picked up a book, "Vanity Fair,"

and for half an hour I was quite interested in it, though I had opened it at about its middle and had never read it before. But the author's description of the manners & habits of a certain grade of Society were so perfect in showing off the trifling manner in which they spend time and fancy they are the world of Fashion. How idiotic they seem to plain people who try to be useful in the world to others & themselves.

July 14: Sunday.

Read the "Friends Intelligencer & Journal" from cover to cover before 10 o'clock. Just as I finished my friend Chalkley Styer came to see me preparatory to going into the Meeting of which he is now the very head. He seems to me to be so young to be there and yet when I come to reflect on the subject, those men whom I thought were so old, were not even many of them so old as he is now. I would have gone back with him to Meeting but that Jay & Susan come always soon after 10 o'clock to see me. So I did not go, and they soon after eleven came "from Meeting" they said. I was glad they did. They do not go often. I do not like to see the Meeting dwindling in numbers. Staid at home all day. Thomas Yocom & a friend came to see Bertha & Mary. I was far from well. Had palp. twice.

July 15: Monday.

A letter from Joseph & one from Carrie Cresson this morning. Went to Norristown. Saw John about my money matters, called on Tacie, &c., &c.

In the afternoon staid at home and wrote a good deal before 5 P.M., when I had a strong attack of palp. Took the ice-water, and it was at once stopped. Went to bed at 9 P.M.

July 16: Tuesday.

Awoke last night at 10:30 with palp. Lay still [and] it went off in a few minutes. Again at 12 midnight it came on (though I had slept soundly). Again it went off on waiting a few minutes, but in a few minutes more it was on me again. I lay still a while but it did not leave, so came down to the refrigerator. There was nothing in it but the snow-ice. I took a tumbler full, but no avail. I had been pretty certain as soon as I began to drink it, that it would not. So after a while, a quarter of an hour or so, took another. It too failed. Then I bore it till 5 A.M., when just as I was about to rise and get some one up to getting ice for me, it went off, but in a few minutes it went on again. Then I lay till 5:40 A.M. Then I called Mary Cunningham & Jimmy to get me some good ice in small lumps. Just then Tildy came bringing the glass jar with tin outside in which she had plenty of ice & water in the upstairs refrigerator. I had not had occasion for several nights to look for the ice-water and was not aware that she had it prepared for me every night. I took a tumblerful of it and at once it was arrested.

At 8:40 went to Norristown to direct the men how to fix the bricks around the base of the Marshall St. house. Home by 11:30. Found Franny Day here. Soon after dinner had palp., took ice-water, also took nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph. I had taken as much before I went to Norristown, so now I have taken nearly as much as on any previous day in the whole 24 hours. Then I lay down from one P.M. to 2:20 P.M. Felt the morph. while in bed. Oh! how comfortable I was. "Now," I said to myself, "I don't think the

palp. will show itself." Yet at 23 minutes before three it struck me again. Again, I took the water but no more morph., only one pill of 1/60 Strychnia.

Daughter Frannie and her cute little Richard only seven yrs. old with her spent the day till 4 P.M. Gd. dau. Mary Cresson here all day. No palp. this evening.

July 17: Wednesday.

6 A.M. A beautiful morning, cool and a little hazy, but the sun gives promise of a hot day. No palp. last night. Slept well and feel well this morning.

Taking Jimmy with me I went to the Marshall St. house in Norristown where three painters are at work, besides James the elder Cunningham, my hired man, who is "tidying" things up about the house and front yard. Home by 11:30. Just before noon & dinner a spell of palp. came on to me. The water arrested it, and I went at one P.M. to "Friends Meeting House," to the funeral of Phebe Mulvany, an aunt to Isaac Roberts of the Conshohocken Bank. Soon after we had met and while sitting in silence, and the cover removed from the corpse, Ezzekiel Wood, who has long been a non-salaried Preacher among Methodists, began a sermon and cont'd. it till every body was wearied with the silly talk. After we came out of the Meeting House, a spell of palp. struck me. I made for my carriage, though very tottering, & was soon home. Just as I walked on to the Piazza (the back one), it disappeared. It was then [that] in an hour I had another spell; took the ice-water. It went off. I had taken ¼ gr. morph. after the one at noon. I now took 1/60 Strychnia & tablespoonful of the Marianna [sic] & went to bed. I have just come down. It is now 4 P.M.

9 P.M. Have had a palp. since last one at 4 ½. Took a quarter grain. Felt pretty comfortable during the evening.

Thomas Hovenden & wife Helen, my niece, have been here this evening, returned from Richfield Springs where Ida is yesterday.

July 18: Thursday.

Up at 5 A.M. Would have lain down again but for the fact that I wished to make a good change of clothes, &c. Called the girls at 5:45.

Four times in the night I had attacks of palp., but every one went off in a few minutes. After the 2nd spell, which followed the first one at 12 midnight very soon, I went down stairs and made a tumblerful of vinegar & water well sweetened so as to make a pleasant drink & took it. There was not another attack for nearly three hours. Then came another. I took the water & it left. Took breakfast at 7 and at 7:20 was on my way to Norristown. Went to Marshall St. house. The men have one coat nearly on. Then went to Ellwood's, called at Chas. Hunsicker's, did not get in. Then as I came down to Main St., got an attack. Went at once to Bruce's Confectionary & the ice-water took it off. Then started for home, but before I got to daughter Tacie's, the palp. again struck me. Got the ice-water from her, & off it went. Did not come again till after I reached home at 10:20. Took water again; lasted in spite of the water which was not cold enough. Took two drinks of it. So, lay down and waited till 20 after one P.M. It went off then after I took ice-water, but came back in a few minutes and held on till 20' of three. In half an hour it was on me again, and at 5 minutes after, it is still with me as I write.

Miss Elizabeth Forwood came just before dinner, when I was feeling badly as I have ever felt when the trouble was on me. So I did not get to see her as she left on the Trolley again at 2 P.M.

5:20 P.M. The palp. cont'd. till 4:10 P.M. I thought of taking $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. sulph. but will not, unless it came on again, till bed-time. I am resisting any increase.

At half past seven, palp. again. I then took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. again and waited to see if it would stop. Took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. at 8 and at 8:20 took the water.

July 19: Friday.

6 A.M. Soon after going to bed, palp. came on but in a few minutes left. Then in the night about midnight, palp. came & went. I got up at 5:10, concluded to dress and was doing so when palp. came on. Waited 15 minutes for it to leave. As it did not, came down and took ice-water intensely cold. It left at once. That was only a few minutes ago. I am querying [querying] whether to take $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph. or to risk it without. Think I will not take it till after breakfast, perhaps not then, till another attack comes on.

9 P.M. I took nothing more till 10 o'clock when I took one quarter gr. morph. Then at 4 P.M. took $\frac{1}{8}$ th, then at 8 took $\frac{1}{8}$ th. Was pretty comfortable all day. Did not go from home.

The world "do more" and the people rush around every where merry-making and yet every day the papers bring us accounts of murders, suicides and poverty & suffering. So it will ever be, I suppose. Indeed as our population becomes more dense & the struggles of the poor to make a living becomes greater, it would seem that these crimes will increase. And yet the fact is I presume that a gradual advance in morality and humanity will be made. The proportion of the vicious to the humane and law-abiding will diminish.

July 20: Saturday.

No palp. last night. Slept well and feel fairly well this morning. Up at 5:40.

10 P.M. Went along without palp. till 7:30 P.M., then had a spell. Waited 20 minutes in vain, then took the water. Went up stairs to go to bed at 9:20, when it came on again. Took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morph., then took the water. After that rested pretty well

July 21: Sunday.

Had another attack in bed soon after 9:30 P.M. During today, I have not had palps., nor till bed-time.

July 22: Monday.

No palp. last night, none all this day, though I have been riding a good deal. The Therm. not above 90° today. To Norristown about various matters this forenoon. To Conshohocken this afternoon. Am taking an eighth gr. morph. before dinner, $\frac{1}{8}$ before supper and $\frac{1}{8}$ and $\frac{1}{16}$ at bed-time, also one dose of Elixir quinine, Iron and Strychnia in the day.

July 23: Tuesday.

6:30 A.M. No palp. last night. Am feeling very well. Have already written two short letters. Must have some better pens.

9 P.M. At home all day. Nothing unusual occurred. No palp.

July 24: Wednesday.

Charley Day came here from Germantown, eleven miles in one hour on his bicycle, at 9 A.M. At 10 we had his mother here from Spring Mill, brought up from there by Susan, Mrs. Lukens.

Frannie staid till 4 P.M. when I took her, Bertha & Mary to Consho. B. to vt. Helen Wood, Frannie to take the Cars and then Mary and self returned. I have Jimmy and Harry in Consho. this afternoon selling early apples. Home by half past five P.M. As we returned by way of Spring Mill, we met the boys. They had sold 2 half pecks and one quarter peck. I thought they were doing quite well, as they were only about 2/3 of the way from Sp. Mill on their way to Main St. in Consho. I don't expect them to sell many, but wished them to begin so that after a month or two, they can know how to do it. Then we shall have bushels & bushels to sell.

July 25: Thursday.

Went to Norristown to Bank, to John J. Corson's, to Tacie's, &c., &c. Home by 11:20. All the afternoon writing a sketch of my work for the recognition of women by the profession & to get the law to have insane females in our hospitals cared for exclusively by women physicians. Wrote a good many pages. A poor woman living in my Harmanville house, run down by the Trolley &, report says, had her legs cut off. She is very hard of hearing.

One palp. spell today.

July 26: Friday.

6 A.M. I forgot yesterday to note that Mrs. George Corson of Plymouth brot her Aunt Mary Lightfoot to see me. We knew each other pretty well, by reputation. She is quite an intelligent woman, and it was a pleasant interview on both sides apparently.

Have a letter from Dr. Leonora Robbins that she will be here on Tuesday next at 1 P.M. She is Aunt Elizabeth Morris' gd. dau. At 7 ½ P.M. I had a spell of palp., but went off in 5 minutes.

July 27: Saturday.

Up at 5:30. Fine morning, a refreshing dampness and not too warm to be, only 66° F. Slept pretty well. Indeed, I slept soundly, awoke very often, every 1 ½ hours, but got asleep soon, very soon after going to bed again & after I have consulted the cold watch, which, like old people, is slow.

Went to Norristown, taking Bertie Day along. Home by eleven. After dinner & a short nap, wrote on my self for the biographical record until supper was called. Nearly completed it. Have tried to speak of the incidents and the work of my life in medicine & in contributions to our medical literature as modestly as I could without weakening the facts and falling short of truth.

Lovely weather. Wrote a long letter to my nephew Thomas Adamson, Ex-Consul. Thomas Yocom, now 8 P.M., has come up to stay the night.

July 28: Sunday.

Not down to breakfast till 7:20. Mary, Bertie & Thomas already at the table. O, it is a lovely morning, such a fine breeze from the West.

At 8 A.M., while reading the Friends Intelligencer & Journal, was attacked by a spell of palp. The ice-water quickly disposed of it, after I had in vain waited for it to leave.

Went to Friends Meeting at 10 o'clock. Home just after eleven. Jay & Susan on the front piazza when I came in. Soon had dinner, then a nap for an hour. Came down stairs & found Richard & Frannie Day and a Mr. Dodge from Germantown, and soon Frank Bacon Jr. also from that place & directly gd. son Jim Cresson. The first party came in the Trolley, the two young men on bicycles.

I was with them a short time on the piazza when a spell of palp. struck me. After a short waiting, I came in with Frannie & took the ice-water, which stopped it. They soon all went away and I engaged in finishing my autobiography for the Corson book.

July 29: Monday.

How the time does fly along! Here we are, the summer more than half over, when it seems to me as if April had just been passed.

A grand morning. The view from the window at my left hand calls to mind as it always does in the early morning, the words of our George H. Boker:

“So fresh and fair the landscape stands,
So vital, so beyond decay,
It seems as though God’s shaping hands
Had just been raised and drawn away.”

I was not up soon enough to hail the rising sun with the words of the Poet:

“But yonder comes the powerful King of day, rejoicing in the East!
The lessening cloud, the kindling Azure, and the mountain’s brow
Illumined with fluid gold, his near approach betoken glad.”

It is yet only a few minutes after six, and Mary and Bertie Day not yet down stairs for breakfast.

6:30 P.M. I went to Consho. on a little business, took Bertie Day along. One of my tenants wants to paper her two down stairs rooms, so I got the paper for her.

Had a palp. before dinner and two palps. this afternoon. I was much absorbed in a paper for Hiram of Cornell when the first one struck me, so kept on for nearly half an hour and then took ice-water which arrested it at once, but in a few minutes it came again and again I took it, and for the last 3 hours have worked steadily at my genealogical record. Our family is so large, that it takes much time to give each one his due.

Bertie Day had some young men callers, and now she and dau. Mary have gone to Helen Hovenden’s to tea. And a nice one my niece Helen will have. She is a genius in her capacity to arrange matters, be they what they may. Ida, her sister has returned from Richland Springs, N. York State, and is with her at the old home now.

July 30: Tuesday.

Splendid morning! Slept pretty well. Up at 5:30. Got through the forenoon in the usual way, reading, writing & the newspapers & letters from the mail. At one P.M. started to Conshohocken to meet my Aunt Elizabeth Corson Morris' gd. dau., Dr. Leonora Robbins who has been at Ocean Grove. Brought her home with me. Susan and Frannie were here to meet her.

During the afternoon, Helen and Ida and some others came and in the evening, I took her to Mrs. Emily Corson's to see the relatives there.

Had no palps. today.

July 31: Wednesday.

Slept well. After midnight had an attack of [palp.]. At 10 o'clock had Bertie Day and Dr. Honora [sic]Robbins at Spring Mill ready to take the train for their separate homes. Went to two places to collect money from old patrons. Home by 11:30 A.M. Took dinner, then a nap till 2:30 P.M. After two wrote for 2 hours. Palp. at 5.

August 1: Thursday.

Cold! Cold! The Therm. half hour after sunrise 56° F. Slept wonderfully well last night. At five got up but concluded not to call the Marys, so lay down again. After a few minutes palp. struck me. I came down, took the ice-water and am now, 6 o'clock, here writing. What a blessing that the ice-water don't fail me.

August 2: Friday.

Slept well. Had palp. in bed but lay quite still 10 minutes or so and it left. A lovely, cool morning. Busy till 9 A.M. writing letters, sending away reprints to Med. Societies, &c., &c.

After dinner. I should say that before dinner I had a spell of palp. Had been feeling very well. Took the ice-waster and was at once well; lay down in bed at 12 ½ o'clock. Called up by Jimmy. Then Mary got ready and went with me in the carriage to Norristown.

Yesterday the difficulty about getting the obstructions to getting the Trolley road from Plymouth Meeting to Norristown were removed., and today as we went to Norristown had gangs of men at several places fixing the road so as to run the Cars tomorrow. Tomorrow will be a glad day for many along the road and I doubt not on the next day, Sunday, hundreds will fill the Cars.

Before I got back from Norristown at 4 P.M., the weather had become warm, and I was weak and almost exhausted. I find that the warm weather will sit hard on me. The weather has been so cool, almost cold during the past two weeks that I have been strong comparatively.

Had palp. before supper. Ice-water did the work in an instant.

August 3: Saturday.

A spell of palp. in the night, which went off in a few minutes. Rose at 6 A.M. feeling pretty well. Weather quite cool. Sleep under almost as much bed clothing as in winter time.

The Trolley Trouble from Plymouth Meeting to Norristown ended. Today, August 3rd, the Cars will run from these places several times a day. What a convenience it will be to those who do not have horses & carriages! And how they will enjoy themselves.

The Trolleys and bicycles have completely changed the conditions of those not rich. The rich even take the Trolley Cars as eagerly as do those who have no conveyances.

I have just finished reading "Vanity Fair." What an interesting exposé of the odious habits of rich, fashionable society! Why should I read such a work? I who am so old, who has no time to spare for useful labor, or who should rest? Well, I can say it was a great change, a rest from the exacting work of months, writing out my several genealogical lines and writing other papers for publication, and was entertaining. It was a revelation to me, and I feel grateful that my lot was cast among sensible, frugal, domestic people whose lives were honorable and worthy of respect.

9 P.M. The Trolley Cars have been running frequently all day. I have worked away at my book for hours this afternoon. Letter from Joseph and from others.

Plymouth Meeting and the residents in the vicinity are much admired, now that it is so easy to jump into the Cars 10 or 15 miles away & "take a run to see Cousin Blank, whom I have not cared to see once for twenty years."

August 4: Sunday.

9 P.M. Busy reading until 10 o'clock, then went to the Quaker Meeting. A quiet rest for an hour. I am so worn out reading and writing that such a rest is a blessing. Why not take it at home? Simply because I can't. I see things to do all the time and must be at them.

After dinner had three spells of palp. before this time of night. Had some callers, Trolley callers, for three hours, and after they left, went over my papers to give them the finishing touch before the Publisher sees them. The spells of palp. were strong ones, but the ice-water mastered them.

A splendid rain in the evening. The ground had become very dry, the grass parched and yellow.

August 5: Monday.

Had a spell of palp. in the night, but after waiting a while lying quietly as if I were dead, it left. Slept very well. I had avoided reading anything after supper, so my mind was at rest on going to bed.

9 P.M. Wrote much today, or rather wrote and fitted in their places many of the characters for the book.

Had Isaac Roberts & wife to see us and spend half an hour, and Mrs. Daniel Getty and her daughter, wife of Dr. Bloom, about tea-time for another half hour. Had two letters & wrote two. Very tired.

August 6: Tuesday.

Had spells of palp. every hour or two, sometimes every half hour, until 5 o'clock this morning. Why did I not go to the ice-water sooner? Because by waiting, being perfectly quiet, they all passed away in less than 15 minutes time except the last one. I

was heavily sweated. Today I have been quite well. No palp. but once to require the ice-water.

9 P.M. Have felt pretty well and have worked pretty steadily correcting some of the records and adding to others. One strong spell of palp. required the water.

August 7: Wednesday.

8 A.M. Good sleep last night. Took a bath this morning. Feel pretty well. The morning gives promise of a very warm day. Intended to go to Norristown but fear now to do so.

It is now 10:30 A. M. and I have been steadily engaged since 7 ½ A.M. in Sister Mary's and her family's genealogy. Now for the Daily Newspaper. But little of interest in that, save murders, outrages of various kinds and a strife, political one between the Governor & our Senator "Quay."^{xv}

2 o'clock P.M. The boys have been to Consho. selling the green apples which have dropped from the trees. Got \$1.15 for them, which makes \$2.35 already this week, which would have been lost by rot in a few days.

Just as I was about to sit to dinner, palp. struck me. I waited a while, then found I had no ice-water cold enough. So got ice & Jimmy and self bustled about to get some, and a peddler came to sell wares and the carriage painter for more paint. I got in great earnest bustling around and suddenly I found it was gone. So ate dinner & went to bed. And now 10 min. after two P.M. I am here writing on this genealogical matter, so many, many persons to be gathered into one fold and put in their proper places.

9 P.M. I continued at the work, completely absorbed by it for four hours. It was too much for me. I was fairly weakened, exhausted I may say with that and the palpitations.

August 8: Thursday.

Feeling pretty well now that I am up, & it not yet six o'clock

9 P.M. The day has passed. Susan and Frannie were here several hours. Did not go into the writing business to much extent and worked along through the day fairly well. Just about 8 o'clock when feeling pretty well and had been sitting after supper idling away my time, I felt a sharp chill pass through me. It seemed queer that there should be such a sudden change in my feelings. I went at once and took a dose of the Tonique Mariana and went to bed under heavy bed clothes.

I soon began to get warm and before an hour had passed was in a heavy sweat. Threw off the most of the clothes and finally fell asleep. Was of necessity up a few times during the night, and finally when it was 5 ½ A.M., I was in a great perspiration. My night shirt being as though dipped in water and there was a strong attack of palp. on me. When I rose and put myself in an upright position, it seemed as if I would then and there die, but I put myself down again. After a few minutes slowly got up and took ice-water. After the palps. ceased, I felt better, dressed myself & before breakfast was called was nearly as well as usual at that time in the morning.

I forgot to say that I had three attacks of palp. yesterday. I am feeling miserable now at bed-time but hope to get along through the night.

August 9: Friday

A rather suffering night. Palps. twice. Poor sleep.

9 P.M. Miserable the whole day. Spells of palp. three times.

August 10: Saturday.

I worked too hard and steadily at the book on Friday and did not take as much med. as usual. Did not sleep half the night.

A great pack of letters came by the evening mail, and though I saw there was a large one from Robert R. Corson, and one from "Prof. Hiram Corson of Cornell," and a third from a man who has been hunting up the La-Tourette family & some others, I could not feel like reading them then, great as was the temptation.

This morning after an almost sleepless night, I tackled them and have been replying to them and others all day. Feel better today than I have on any other day for a month, and yet I have had three spells of palp. today.

9 P.M. In taking water to stop the palp. today, I drank too much & too rapidly. All of a sudden a hot wave passed through & over my head and down through my entire body. My knees gave way. I felt that I was falling, so grasped the door and held on, so did not entirely fall. Once before I had this kind of attack brought on by taking a little too much. Every time that I take it almost, I have the feeling to pass lightly through and over my head. I had it again in a few hours, took the water more deliberately and had nothing of it. I will take it more carefully here after. It is a queer feeling.

August 11: Sunday.

8 A.M. Slept well. At 5 A.M. had a spell of palp. Waited a long time, ½ hour or so, for it to leave; did not, so took the ice-water. The prospect is for a very hot day. The Fahrenheit Therm. registered 94° in the shade yesterday, and this one will beat it I think.

Did not go to Meeting, but wrote numerous letters. Kept close house all day, or rather kept to the piazzas and amused myself, when not reading, with watching snow-white geese and the little ducks. How wonderful is Nature. Never until I raised these geese and started on the Ducks just for the pleasure of raising them, had I a comprehension of how interesting they are. They come so near to ourselves in their interests that I am sure we ought to regard them with favor, be merciful to them as possible.

Before dinner Franny came bouncing in just from the Trolley and spent a few hours with us. O! the Trolley, how convenient it is.

Temp. 94°, 98° [in] Phila.

August 12: Monday.

Hot from the start at sunrise, 94° at 2 P.M. Had palp. but once all day. Weakness seems to me scarcely a name for my condition, felt though mainly in the calves of my legs. It seems as though they must give way under me.

Took a few very small drinks, about a small wine glass full of a "Root Beer" which Jimmy made from ingredients prepared & sold in stores. It seemed to me more agreeable to me than the Mariana.

Nothing unusual about the region. Fierce thunder storms a day or two ago burned 10 barns in Bucks & Montg'y. Counties.

August 13: Tuesday.

Hot as yesterday. Slept very well. Feel well when in a sitting or horizontal position, but when erect, my limbs are so weak below the knees that I must quickly sit down.

I went at about 9 A.M. to Helen's and she gave me a partly used, small jar of "Armour's Beef extract," and after dinner I sent to Norristown for a jar for myself and also for some of "Mellen's Food."^{xvi} I am today on the soup made from the meat of half-grown chickens by boiling long and strongly. It was excellent. I took a large coffee cup full at noon. Then had a nap of an hour or two. Took Charley's Root-Beer, about two tablespoonsful at a time several times, with apparent good effect. But the weather 94° F. is oppressive to a great degree.

No visitors. To bed at 9 P.M. after reading all this..

August 14: Wednesday.

What a glorious change!! Thermometer 64° this morning at 6 o'clock. A fine cool air. I have a hope that the back-bone of the hot spell has been broken.

At ten 30 took 6 [teaspoonsful of Celestial];

At noon " 8. Susan came before dinner. At 2 P.M. Bertha & Frannie came. They are all here now at 4 P.M. Dr. Highley was here at noon, soon after I had taken the Ounce of Celestial. They have agreed to take the publication of it in hand and liberate me from any more work about it. The whole history is complete. They have thought to see to its publication. The publisher says it will make 300 pages of a book the size Moses Auge's Book, or nearly that size.

Palp. 3 times today. Feel fearfully weak. I think on no day have I been so weak, yet I have taken I may say rather more than my usual am't. of Celestial up to this time any afternoon.

After supper. It is with difficulty that I make out to write at all, and see what it is.

6 P.M. Frannie has just left for home, will take the Trolley Car at Plymouth Meeting, then from there to Wissahickon it is a flight. She and Bertha who was going with her to call a few minutes on Helen have just returned after getting only just below our school-house. They had met Isaac Styer who told them Thos. Hovenden had been hurt on the Rail Road.

9 P.M. After they had told me this, they started again for the Cars and soon learned and sent word back to me that Thomas Hovenden had been instantly killed. Oh! what a shock. But I could do nothing to comfort the family, so staid home. The girls, as I called them, went out at once and learned that he was struck by a train, at the "cut off" just above Livezey's store, while trying to save a child five years old. He died instantly. What a sacrifice! For nothing, the child too was killed.

Dr. Ellwood came to see me at bed-time. It affected him greatly. I am so dazed with the history of the sad event that I hardly know myself. It seems incredible that the genial friend so full of health and spirits this noon is now dead, that we shall never hear his voice again.

Spells of palp. 5 times today & last night.

August 15: Thursday.

Slept well several times, nearly two hours at a time. It is now noon and I have had palps. three times. I went over to see dear, afflicted Helen. She is sad indeed. Her son on his bicycle came to the cars a minute after the accident and wanted to know if he could carry a message, or doing any thing useful, and asked who was hurt. When told he was so dazed that after he got home, he told his mother he could not at all realize how he got there. He knew he was at home but how he came there he knew nothing.

My forgetfulness is so great that I now have daughter Bertha to give me my medicine three times daily, for fear that I will take too much, forgetting when I took it, if only an hour before and then repeat it, and as there is strychnine in it, too frequent doses would be dangerous.

August 16: Friday.

I have just had a letter from Ida to tell me that Rev'd. Wm. Furness, Unitarian minister for just about 70 years has telegraphed that he will come to see her and attend Mr. Hovenden's funeral at Plymouth Friends' Burying Ground tomorrow early, and she is desirous that I shall come to meet him. He is about two years older than I am, I think. When at Friends School in Philad. in the winter of 1825-6, I went from 4th & Vine where I boarded to hear him preach away "down town." It was I think the second year of his Pastorate. Never have even seen him since, though his name has been a household word in thousands of families. Hope to see him tomorrow. He was one of Thomas' best friends, most admired by him.

7 P.M. About 4 strong spells of palp. today. Am excessively weak. Glad that Bertha has been here. She has a chance to see how I am harassed by the palpitations.

9 P.M. Two more bad palps., one just as I was ready for bed.

August 17: Saturday.

Had a bad palp. at 10 ½ last night and one at 3. Thought I would give this one plenty of time to exert itself and then go off. Waited half an hour or more. Fell asleep. Wakened at five in a perfect muck of sweat. It is now nearly 10 A.M. and I have just had my third spell since getting up, or since breakfast. I am getting worn down rapidly.

4 P.M. Have just returned from the funeral of Thomas Hovenden. Rode from the house in a carriage with Maggie Corson, Dr. Ellwood's wife, but I got palp. as we had almost reached the grave. But I did not feel able to get out of the carriage and stand about the grave until all was over.

Soon as we got back to the house. Jimmy was there with the carriage and Bertha and self got in, the palp. still on me. Took the water soon as I reached home and then began to write the above.

Took the Tonic, Iron, Quinine & 1/60 gr. Strychnia regularly today under the ministrations of my nurse Bertha Yocom acting for Ellwood in my case.

August 18: Sunday.

Slept soundly from about 9 ½ P.M. of yesterday until two A.M. this day. Near morning I was struck by a spell of palp. Bertha got the water which was near, and as it was intensely cold, a very small amount did the work. Got up at 6 A.M. feeling pretty strong and well, when compared with some preceding mornings. After coming down

stairs, as no one was moving, I read nearly every thing in "Friends Intelligencer and Journal" before breakfast.

4 P.M. Have had a spell of palp. at 10 ½ A.M. and 3 ½ P.M. Much cooler and quite breezy today. The spells of palp. seem not to [be] averted by increase of sulph. morph. I have now reached ½ and 1/16 in 24 hours. Bertha, Susan and Frannie urge me to a good increase, and if I am really not to live at most more than a few weeks, there is no reason why I should not take as much as will make me comfortable. Still I will do it slowly.

August 19: Monday.

Palp. at 5 A.M., three times before 5 P.M. Have not felt quite so well as yesterday. Have had letters today from Dr. Blackwell of Stephenson, N. J., Dr. Sarah Dolley of Rochester, N.Y. and son Joseph.

Have notified several relatives about the book and have asked them to name the number of copies they wish to take. It is a great labor for me now to write so many letters. There is so much to say so that they will understand what I want to know, because they have no knowledge of the kind of affair it is.

August 20: Tuesday.

Thermometer at 55° this morning. O what a change it is. Last night at 3 o'clock palp. struck me. Bertha when called got me the ice-water. At 4 o'clock another spell struck me, again she got the water and again I was well.

I ought to have said the first spell was at 2 o'clock and I bore it until 3, hoping it would leave. As it did not then, Bertha got me the water.

Noon. Bertha & self were just ready at 10 A.M. to go [to] Norristown for some Tonic medicine when Richard Corson's wife, Louisa, and Follen's widow Margaret called upon us. Had come in the Trolley. So when they left at 10 ½, we went to the P.O. then came back to Helen Hovenden's, and while there talking, a spell of palp. struck me. I made my way home and took the ice-water. This was only five or ten minutes before I began to write this. How wonderful the effect of the ice-water on the system!

I forgot to say that I had an attack a few minutes before the two Mrs. Corsons came. I had just put it away by using the ice-water when they came. I also had one spell just as I sat for breakfast.

From the above it would seem to one reading it that my whole time was taken by attacks, taking ice-water, and resting between the attacks, but in reality, as I feel so well immediately, I go about as usual. Ah! Here it is again. It was only half an hour ago that I came home from Helen's with it on me, not half an hour, no barely ¼ of an hour.

6 P.M. Before two o'clock I went up stairs and lay on my bed with all my clothes upon me save my hat and shoes. Old Dr. Antrim Foulke did not when taking an afternoon nap remove them.

I finally got awake and found Jimmy, my 15 [year] old boy standing by the bed-side. He wanted to know if I had letters to send. "Letters," I said, "why what time of day is it?" "Five o'clock," he replied. Oh! how well I felt. There I had been in a sound sleep for three or more hours. I had been so "tormented" by palps. as old friend John Holt used to say, that exhausted Nature needed such repose.

Bertha, my daughter, had gone to the Trolley for a ride to Norristown and for the Elixir of Iron, Quinine & Strychnia for me, and long before my awakening was home with it, and [was] delighted with the ride. I fail rapidly in my capacity to write.

August 21: Wednesday.

No palp. last night till 3 o'clock this morning. Had it then at 3, again at 6. I am beginning to get out of heart with its coming so frequently. For several weeks a month or more ago, it often went off without the resort to ice-water, if I could wait a few minutes. Bertha wishes to go away home today. It worries me, but I will get Tacie down.

6 P.M. I went to Spring Mill in the carriage to take Bertha to the train, then to Conshohocken to Esq. Smith's to collect rents. Home by eleven o'clock.

In the afternoon Lawyer Fornance called to see me about my abolition papers. Then Dr. Highley came to see me about the Corson family papers. Aunt Emily Corson and her son George's wife came. No palp. yet today.

8 P.M. Just had a palp. and put it off by the ice-water. Have felt pretty well all day.

August 22: Thursday.

Therm. 52°. How strange it seems, only a few days ago I slept without any bed-clothes on me. Last night with a sheet, blanket and a bed-quilt doubled. No palp. last night after 8.

9 P.M. I rode to the P.O. this morning and worked at several things till noon. Took a nap till 2 P.M. after dinner. On getting up there was a telegram for me from Prof. Hiram Corson, my nephew, telling me he will leave Ithaca tomorrow morning for Consho. I had directed him how to come, and that our carriage would be at Consho. for him in the afternoon when he shall arrive. So to be satisfied how to manage, I went to Consho. to learn when he would arrive. The agent said at 5:25 he would be in Phila. So if he follow my direction, he will be at Consho. Station about 6 P.M. Before I reached home, I was quite "used up," as I had omitted to take the med. after dinner as is my habit.

Just before I was ready to go to bed and while writing here, I got a spell of palp. The water took it off on the 2nd trial, the first was defective in some way.

August 23: Friday.

The morning not bright, but will clear, I think. Warmer than the last two mornings, 68° F. Slept well. Feel pretty well now, 6 ½ A.M.

Noon. Have been to Norristown to see John about the Lombard Investment Company. Saw Ellwood, Tacie. Got some cakes, paper, &c., &c. Home by 10 A.M.

9 P.M. At 4 ½ P.M. self & Jimmy went to Conshohocken and brought Prof. Hiram Corson home with us. He looks to me greatly like his father. Spent the evening pleasantly. He is easy to entertain. So full of interesting reminiscences, so learned in History & Poetry. Has met so many learned people, men and women.

August 24: Saturday.

After breakfast at 7:30, we went to the Telegraph office at Corson's Station that he might telegraph his wife of his safe arrival here. Then spent a half hour on a visit to

Emily Corson, widow of Elias H. Corson, then came home, but not till we had called on Helen & Ida and seen the large picture not yet finished, Emigrants of forty or 60 years ago making their way Westward. At home he concluded to rest, did not care to go out or even to have company. But before dinner-time, Susan Lukens and Frannie Day both came.

Just before dinner I was struck with a spell of palp. and it lasted me, despite the cold water, till almost three P.M.

9 P.M. Again before night, I had palp.

August 25: Sunday.

Slept pretty well, but had palp. after midnight and again at 5 A.M. Had to take water both times, after bearing it a good spell. At 8:30 had palp. again, but fortunately it went off in a few minutes.

9 P.M. At 4 P.M. Hiram was taken by Jimmy to Jawood Lukens' where he will take supper and stay all night and tomorrow morning leave for New York. Says he will come to see me again very soon, in a few weeks.

August 26: Monday.

9 P.M. Therm. 62°. Slept well, only one spell of palp. at 3 o'clock this morning, none all yesterday. I want to do without any medicine until after dinner, so as to crowd the three doses all in the time between noon and bed-time and thus carry me through the night without palps.

Took no med. till after dinner, but went with Susan's coachman to Consho. and to see Dr. Highley. Prof. Hiram was still at Susan's. Got home as I went, but Oh! how weak. Why, I could not say, but it occurred to me as I had taken no morph., no Mariana, no Elixir of quinine, Iron & Strychnia for 16 hours, I might be in need of that. So at 2 P.M. took 1/8 morph. and some of the Tonique and soon felt stronger. No palp. yet today.

Helen and Ida were here a short time in the evening.

August 27: Tuesday.

Slept well. Had no palp. Up at 6 A.M., wrote and sent letter to Tacie before breakfast. Palp. at 20 minutes after 8 A.M. Ice-water. No palp. afterwards.

Tacie came down to stay on Wednesday while Tildy & Mary Cunningham will be away. Nothing new about our home. The world is rich in murders, suicides and all other abominations as so delightful a world can be.

August 28: Wednesday.

The morning opens warm and the sun not quite able to penetrate the mist, now at 6 ¼ A.M. I had pain in the night, so got up and went to the office to get the Paregoric, of which I took two teaspoonsful with subsequent relief.

Palp. at 8:30 A.M. Did not get water cold. I was in the carriage when the spell of palp. came on me, and I did not get rid of it (as Tildy had not prepared the cold-water for me before she and Mary Cunningham left this morning) until 12 noon, as having company I bore with it hoping that the company would leave soon, but they did not until

noon. Then the water did the work quickly. The company were Mrs. Frannie Cuthbert, née Frannie Brooks, and her dau.-in-law.

No palp. all day.

August 29: Thursday.

Slept well without a spell of palp. Up at six o'clock. Ate quite a large breakfast. Palp. at 8 ½ while resting on the lounge after reading many pages of "The Light of Asia." Water arrested it.

11 ½ o'clock - 6 and Elixir [6 refers to 6 teaspoonsful of Celestial = morph.];

4 o'clock six & Elixir;

8 o'clock six .

Have not had palp. today. Does this small am't. of Anodyne & Tonique save me from so repeated spells of palp.? If so it is a grand thing. Some days and nights I have been so pestered by them, lost sleep & appetite. Now, sleep wonderfully well, eat well and am comfortable.

The politicians in this State have had a most excited time. There is a contest between Gov. Hastings & Senator Quay to be President of the coming State Convention. Quay yesterday was victorious. I don't like him. Nor do I like that a Gov. of this great State should be personally engaged in a squabble about another political office when he is Governor, and shows him unfit for the office he holds.

August 30: Friday.

Had a good night. No spells. Had several letters last evening, which I felt too weary to read. Have this morning been busy from 8 A.M. until eleven getting through reading and answering them and am now at eleven thirty weary indeed.

Robert's letter spoke to me of a Miss Charlotte Coursen of 672 Lexington Square, N. York, with whom he wishes me to open a correspondence.

At noon ¼ = 8 [fluid drachms of Celestial, a weak solution of morphine];

At 2 P.M. = 6;

At 5 = 4;

At 9 = 4

8 is a quarter grain, 16 a half grain.

Have had a sleep of an hour. Will increase Celeste a little today to see if I can feel stronger under its use.

3 P.M. Have just agreed to give Patrick Lynch \$200 for his lot of land adjoining mine on Harry St., Consho., a long narrow strip that runs down to Hallowell St. It lengthens my lot on 10th Av. so that they are sizeable from that Avenue to an Alley between 10th & 9th.

At 6 o'clock this P.M. there was a most pleasant cool change from the heated day. Evening mail brot letters from Prof. Hiram, Mary Ann Alan's daughter, Frannie, my daughter. I sent letters to Robert R. (in Switzerland) and also pamphlets which he wanted for friends.

9 P.M. I have almost finished a letter to Joseph, but as it is bed-time, I will hope for another day to finish it, and now be off to bed.

August 31: Saturday.

6:20 A.M. Dull warm morning. Slept well. Am feeling very well. Hope to have a comfortable day.

10:20 o'clock. Have written letters to Jos., John J. Corson, Dr. Ellwood Corson & Harry Brown. Have rec'd. letter of thanks from Mr. Houston & mother for the pamphlet on women physicians, women doc[tors] for the insane of the sex in hospitals.

Just a moment ago took Celeste (1/4 gr.) – 8 [fluid drachms], with Elixir Quinine, Iron & Strychnia at 10:20. At 4, Elixir and – 6; at 8 [took] 6. In the whole day, 1/2 & 1/8 [morph.].

Palp. at 3 P.M., but only for a few minutes.

September 1: Sunday.

Palp. after midnight. Water arrested it. Slept well otherwise.

Very great change in the temp. of the weather. Therm. 57°. How great a change many mornings last month. Fahrenheit marked about 80°.

After the palp. left last night, I took nearly 1/4 gr. sulph. morph. I recognize its effects this morning in the fact that I had no other attack of palp. and also in my feeling of strength and bodily vigor in the place of weakness which otherwise would be present. Some nights in times past, when I would arrest the palps. (at midnight, say) but take no anodyne, no Elixir, no Mariana, I would have three or four more attacks before breakfast. No use in bearing them when I can take a harmless, agreeable dose & avert them.

Long letter last evening from Dr. John Rodgers, son of my college-chum at lectures, Dr. Robert Rodgers, after whom Robert R. Corson was named. Also a letter from General W.W. H. Davis asking me to write an article on the use or abuse of bicycling riding.

8 P.M. Uncle Joshua Corson's gd. son Kirk Corson and wife came on the Trolley at 3:30 P.M. About the same time came Mary Corson, dau. of A. W. Corson, to show me what Mimiegraph [sic] is, and get my influence in her favor with Professor Tyson and Dr. Wm. Pepper. After tea came Helen Hovenden and her sister Ida & staid till just now.

Wrote an article on the bicycle, its use and abuse for General Davis' Doylestown Democrat. Wrote to Mr. Fornance advising what part of my "Abolition Paper" should be read at Barren Hill meeting.

September 2: Monday.

Pretty miserable all day with palps., &c., &c. At night felt much better. Was very busy writing to various persons and Societies who wish something done for them.

September 3: Tuesday.

Had a good night. Was kept steadily at the desk writing to Miss Mary Corson and on her behalf to Drs. Tyson & Pepper, and letters of introduction to them for Miss Corson, &c.

Letter from Watson P. Church of the "Newtown Enterprise," wanting to let me copy my article on Abolition in Montgomery County.

Daughter Susan Lukens brot me today a telegram sent by Joseph to Jawood stating that he would be here in a few days. It was a joy to me. I have been afraid it would not be this month. A few days since he thought not perhaps before the 27th.

The fact that Cornelius Corson of Staten Island came from the West Border of France is fairly established by a letter from Charlotte Coursen of New York City, which I have had, or will have published in our book.

September 4: Wednesday.

Beautiful morning! Up at 6. Had slept pretty well, indeed very well, barring that I had to rise two, three or four times as is my habit every night. But even then, I am very comfortable and fall asleep again directly.

The Will of Thomas Hovenden has just been recorded. It was willed on August 14th. He had made his Will and about two months previous to that time and left every thing he owned to his wife (now widow) Helen Hovenden

Medicine taken: $\frac{1}{4}$ at 9:30; $\frac{1}{4}$ at noon; $\frac{1}{8}$ at 6 P.M., after a palp. This is only $\frac{1}{8}$ th more than my every day dose. I had allowed myself to fail in taking enough of the med. yesterday & last evening, so 1) lost my appetite, could not eat any thing hardly at breakfast; 2) was nauseated all forenoon; 3) no dinner, so on taking the 2nd quarter & Elixir, I began to feel its effects & lost the nausea.

At 3: 45 had palp. Water took it down, after which I took the $\frac{1}{8}$ noticed on last page.

Frannie counted the pages of my Abolition History. There are 166 pages, so it will require a reader 2 hours and 46 minutes to read it before an audience.

September 5: Thursday.

Slept well, after having eaten six large oysters, raw, for supper last evening.

Palp. in the forenoon. Then I took Elixir & 6 drachms [fluid drams] Celestial. Again before noon took oz. $\frac{1}{2}$. Had palp. at 3, after a most refreshing sleep of two hours and when feeling as well as I ever did, it seemed to me.

I therefore took one dose more of the Celeste up to this time of day than is my wont. While the anodyne does not now, this day or two past, keep it off as I have been led to believe it did on other occasions, yet it comforts me. I do not feel so weak then.

Dr. Highley came this P.M. to read the little which he has written about Cornelius, the immigrant. He has hay-fever so badly that, I think, he will not be able to read any part of my paper on abolition work.

I want to keep a close account of the amount of sulph. morph. I take. Double the quantity I do take, I feel sure would do me much more good. I mean, make me feel more comfortable. But I don't want to take more than is needful to keep my vital organs doing their work well, stimulated by the influence of the nervous system as it is incited to a proper exercise of its capacities. Oh! fiddle dee dee! What nonsense I write.

I must now go on preparing my autobiography for the "Biographical Publishing Company."

Bert Bacon came up on a bicycle, Thomas Yocom on the Trolley. Charles Day still here. Hope he will stay a few weeks with us, a handy ingenious youth. Has set our clock that has been dumb and not traveling for a year or two, to going again and to striking the hour. Has also done some other good work.

[Celestial taken]: At 8 A.M. 8;
 at 2 P. 5;
 at 6 P.M. 4;
 at 9 P.M. 4.
 21

At least 4 ready to take.

September 9: Monday.

Slept wonderfully well. Feel pretty well this morning. Fear I have been losing money by some pilferer. Have put a test on them this morning. I have imprudently allowed Jimmy & Mary to know where the money is lying loose in the drawer, and I fear the temptation has been too great for them.

The palps. come very often now. [Celestial taken], noon, 6; 4 P., 6; at 8 P., 6.

September 10: Tuesday.

At 7:45 took 6 drachms Celestial. I had had the palp. continuously for 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours before I took it. At 10 o'clock took 6; at 10:30 had palp.; at 12 noon had palp. At 5 P.M. palp. After it was off by water, took 6. At 6 had supper. At 8:15 palp. Water failed, but took water at 8:45 and stopped it. After going to bed, had palp. at 11 P.M. Bore it all night without getting up to take the water. Went off at 5 o'clock this Wednesday morning.

After it went away at 5 A.M., I lay down again on the bed till 6, then dressed and down and sat on the dining room piazza and directly had a palp. Charles Day got the ice- water for me and it took it off.

Before breakfast, despite my resolve not to take any more Strychnia, I took one of Dr. E. M. C.'s pills containing one sixteenth of a grain. Took another pill at breakfast time. At two o'clock went to the Gate-lot to meet John J. Corson and see how Lynch's lot was situated, that I want to buy. John did not come, so paid a short visit to Susan & came home. Took 6 drachms of Celeste at 4 P.M. Finished my autobiography for the Bibliographically [Biographical] Publishing Co. of Phila.

Had palp. at 8 or 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ P.M. Took water.

September 12: Thursday.

6:30 A.M. No palp. last night, only had 10 yesterday. Awake in the night, I took 6 more, in all just $\frac{1}{2}$ gr., instead of $\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{1}{4}$ as the day before. Will try to do with as little today. Have just taken half an ounce of Tonique Mariana.

At 9:30 A.M. had palp. Water stopped it. Took Strychnine pill at noon, before dinner. At one P.M. while in bed, palp. came, but directly went off, a very decent thing for it to do.

Henry Donnell & a friend came by Trolley to see me. Staid half hour. Then Charles Lukens & wife came in their carriage. Before supper took another pill of Strychnine, $\frac{1}{60}$ gr.

September 13: Friday.

Morning. All the Morph. I took yesterday was $\frac{3}{4}$ of half a grain. At 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ this morning had palp. after a long, good sleep. Water stopped it. In $\frac{1}{4}$ hour palp. again. Water took it off. Soon palp. again, then I concluded to take it once more, though

greatly out of heart with its returns. Took the water & went to bed. Soon it came again. It was then 2 ½ A.M. Then I just lay still, sweating profusely till 6 A.M., then took it off by the water. Then in a muck of sweat and so weak, I could scarcely stand, dressed myself & came down, took the water, and have been free from palps. up to this time, just 8 o'clock.

9:40 A.M. Have been lying on the lounge about half an hour or more. The palp. then struck me. Got up and Charley Day brot me cold water. It was piercing cold and half a tumbler of it stopped the palps. at once. So now, I will take a pill. Strange that Charley and self both forgot it. Will also take of the weak Celestial sol. six fluid drachms. For short, I always simply write 6, or 8, or 4, as I may take of it. Four is 1/8th gr., six 1/8 & 1/16th, &c., and 8 is half gr.[1/4th] sulph. morph.

I am in a weak, helpless state, helpless I mean against the coming of the palps. but O, what a comfort that the water will stop it.

4:20 P.M. Nearly ½ hour ago I took ½ oz Mariana, as I was feeling weak & weary. When I took it I told daughter Susan that while feeling that I needed it, I felt a fear to take it because it so frequently came on soon after taking it, but sure enough, I took it and in less than half an hour the palp. was on me. I at once took the water and stopped it. That was just a minute or two ago.

At 5:20 took ½ one of Dr. Highley's pills, Celeste 4 at 5 P.M. At 9 P.M. I think that I took another half a pill.

The weather had become much cooler and before bed-time I felt a slight sense of chilliness. I did not take more of the Celestial, but went to bed and had the clothes on me. Soon I felt that I must have more cover on me. So doubled those already on the bed and got two heavy coats and added to them. In half an hour or so I was heated greatly & then attempted to rise but found it impossible. I had almost no use of my legs or arms. Then called Charley Day. He got the clothes off of me and I attempted to rise, but as soon as Charley had me on the side of the bed, I sank down to the floor, and it was only after repeated efforts & the aid of Charley that I was enabled to get back to bed. After this I was all night trying to keep awake through fear that if I should get asleep, I would have another spell. But I could not keep awake, and so dozed away an hour or so at a time. My mouth parched and dry as a board. I had Charley Day up often to wait on me. I did scarcely expect to live till morning. But I got up to breakfast and have been as well as usual today.

September 14: Saturday.

Took 1/8 gr. sulph. morph. at 6 A.M. Nothing more till 2:30 P.M. when I took an eighth. Then at 10 A.M. two grs. Quinine, also 2 grs. at 4 P.M. No Strychnine, as I feel that what I took yesterday brought me to so helpless condition.

Now at 4 P.M. my pulse is going on at its usual steady gait of 52 beats per minute. Have not had a single spell of palp. now for 24 hours, and have been rather more able to walk about than for several days. What the night may bring forth, I know not.

I will now try to get safely along with two grs. quinine 3 times a day and half a grain of sulph. morph. in the whole day in three doses.

September 15: Sunday.

No palp. all night and feel less weakness in the limbs this morning. Fahr. 42°.

Will try same treatment as yesterday.

6 P.M. After dinner and after Jay & Susan had left for home, I had a nap of an hour or so, then got up and took Frannie Day to Isaac Styers, where we met Hannah ----- [empty space], Dr. Graham and wife. Staid but a few minutes and then came home where we found Dr. Geo. W. Highley & W. Cooper & wife. They staid but a short time. I have been better today than for several days. Frannie started for home in the Trolley about 4 ½ P.M. It is amazing to see how greatly the Trolley Cars are loaded, going as they do, every 20 minutes. Difficult for me to see the lines, so I stop.

September 16: Monday.

Slept pretty well, but at 4 A.M. got awake and seemed to be so weak in the region of the stomach that I got Charles Day to get some fine cake that dau. Susan had brought us yesterday. This and about two tablespoonsful of sweat cider made me feel pretty comfortable. After sitting quietly in the old arm chair about 20 minutes, I made my way back to bed and had a nap before six.

Was pretty poorly all day and staid at home. Expected Joseph & Ada but they wrote they would not be here till tomorrow.

September 17: Tuesday.

Slept middling well. Pretty weak and dull this morning. At 8 ½ A.M. took ¼ of a gr. of sulph. quinine, began at 9 A.M. to feel somewhat less weak, &c.

Look for Joseph today. 5 P.M. I foolishly, as it seems to me now, went with Charley to Spring Mill. The time for me to get strong by riding in a carriage or walking an extra distance is over. Rest in bed or in a rocking or cushioned chair suits me better and saves my strength. I was much exhausted when we got back and so, I lay down on the lounge and had a nap. On awaking a few minutes ago, I felt slight coolness and slight fever. What will come of it I do not know. Mary & Charley Day are on the front piazza, but I don't care about sitting out there. Have quite a good deal of pain in the chest, rather more soreness than pain, under or in the pectoral muscles.

September 20: Friday.

4 P.M. All these days I have been very poorly, scarcely out of my bed room. Today am better. On Wednesday had a diarrhea that cut me down greatly in strength, and I have since been trying to prevent it and recruit from it.

I was not able to read my paper on Wednesday, or even hear it read, so sick was I. Dr. Highley read it very well, and the people were pleased with the part of the paper read.

September 24: Tuesday.

Since last writing until today, the weather has been intensely hot, near 90° at night, 93° in day time.

Ever since a week ago, I have been so poorly, scarcely able to walk, and have had my time so taken up with spells of palp. by night and by day and often bearing them for hours without taking water, also having griping and a scanty but loose, thin discharge, that I scarcely thought I could live from a day to the next that I have not made a record of what has happened. This morning there is a great change in the weather. It is cool, only

64° at sunrise, and quite cool ever since. So will pass the whole week in this diary as one day.

Was fine all day till 4 P.M. when I got in the carriage and rode with son Joseph to the turnpike road, felt that I had better come back and soon had palp. Bore it a good while & sweat profusely.

Again about seven o'clock got a bad spell palp. All that night I was miserable with its going, my waiting hours for it to go off, and taking water after waiting long. I can't go into details.

3 P.M. Joseph is away on business. Have had no palp. since morning. I take water now as soon after it comes as I can. It is wrong to wait, I think.

September 26: Thursday.

Had no palp. last night. Seem to be quite recovered from the affection of stomach & bowels, and am a little stronger. Joseph went to the city this morning.

3 P.M. after a nap. Have just taken my second dose of Elixir of Quinine, Iron & Strychnia, one sixtieth of a grain.

Dr. Highley was here to see about some matters in the "Corson Family Book," and Joseph has corrected my Biography which is to be published in a Book of Distinguished Men by the Biographical Publishing Co. of Phila. Has, too, sent the photo that I approve for publication with the biography. I was then in my 85th year, when it was taken I mean.

9 P.M. After supper had a spell of palp., or rather I had an attack which I stopped quickly by the ice-water.

September 27: Friday.

No palp. last night. Slept very well. Up three times to look at watch, &c. and to enjoy a rest in the small, old arm chair between the desk and bureau. It is a real enjoyment for 20 or 30 minutes; drop asleep directly after going to the bed again.

No disposition to read, or write. Can eat but little. No sickness, no pain, only weakness. Time therefore hangs heavily on me, so it induces me to lie much on the lounge.

At 8 ½ A.M. Joseph & wife went to the city. It was lonely afterwards, only Mary and self here and I so poorly and she so helpless.

9 P.M. At 2:30 P.M. Dr. Anna Lukens and her nephew William came here from Germantown to see us. I had had a good nap and after they left, felt some stronger and better than before they came, when I had been weak beyond expression.

September 28: Saturday.

Slept well. Very cool morning. Last evening had some company, and in the afternoon Louisa Corson, wife of Richard, and Mrs. Follen Corson were here a brief half hour. Joseph & Ada and their son came in the evening. He, the son, has been a few days at Germantown School. He says he has not had a "square meal" since he left here to go there.

Afternoon. Jos. & Ada & son went to Norristown this P.M. on the Trolley from Plymouth Meeting to make several short visits.

Dr. Highley who is working earnestly at the Book came this P.M. to get me to review some statements.

I have been better in strength today than for some weeks, I might say.

September 29: Sunday.

Had palp. three times in the night, but just lay still & got asleep and it went off, and I rose quite refreshed and as I had lain with my clothes on, I had nothing to do at half past seven when I awoke to get up for breakfast. I felt pretty well in doing so and took breakfast, some milk toast with satisfaction.

September 30: Monday.

Palp. struck me at 8:40 A.M. I bore it until 10:40, then it left and I had no more till I went to bed; then it came, but before I could have the water cooled and brought, it went off. Afterward I slept pretty well all night, and am now, Tuesday morning, Oct. 1st, pretty well.

October 1: Tuesday.

Therm. at sunrise 40°. Still no rain, none for weeks gone past.

3:23 P.M. Had a nap from after dinner until 3:15, then came down, walked about the yard a few minutes, then came in and sat down to talk to Frannie. I said, "I do sleep so well, but am all the time I am awake fearing an attack of palpitation." Just as I pronounced the word palpitation, it struck me. Strange, was't it?

4:40. Palp. has just gone away. How glad I am of it.

October 2: Wednesday.

No palp. since yesterday at 4:40. Slept very well. Have tolerable appetite. For breakfast expect only milk & dry toast, or rather milk toast and a little dry toast & bread & butter.

7 P.M. Had an attack of palp. at 12:30 now. Concluded to wait a while to see if it would leave. Waited 3 hours, then took hot coffee, waited another hour, then still being on me, took water twice & it left. Had it five hours. Have had supper and am free from it at present. Isaac Roberts & wife were here to see me, but I did not see them. I do hope I will not be troubled with it this night. Have not had a nap today. But for the palp., I am much stronger and better than two weeks ago. Can eat pretty well and sleep very well at night. Have come to dread the palp. because it nearly always involves the taking such heavy drafts of ice-water.

October 3: Thursday.

Palp. at midnight or near to it. Water took it off. In twenty minutes came on again. Took the water at once. It went off again and staid away till morning. This morning [it is] bright, cool and dry. Not the least appearance of change from the several weeks of drought.

At 9 A.M. Jos. & self went to the P. O., got our letters and then started on foot to get in the Trolley-Cars to go to Norristown, which were a hundred steps or so away. Before I reached them I was so weak and over-done that I would not go, and as Joseph rec'd. a letter from the Teacher at the Germantown Academy that Edward had been sick

in bed the day before, we came back home. Joseph went right off to see his son, and I lay down to reflect on the evidence which I had just had of my weakness.

9 P.M. To have palp., to eat 3 times a day, and to sleep about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the 24 hours in my daily routine. Uninteresting? Yes, indeed.

October 4: Friday.

Last night palp. at eleven A.M. Water stopped it. Palp. then at twelve. Water took it off. Palp. at 3:30, did not take water. Bore it till 6:30, then took water and $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{16}$ th Celeste. Took it off. No fun to be thus employed at night. Hard on Joseph too, to get up & get ice-water.

October 5: Saturday.

8 A.M. No palp. after bed-time last night. Slept well enough to satisfy me.

10 A.M. Have just returned from Norristown where I went with Joseph to have my hair and whiskers trimmed. It amazes me that I bore it so well. I am no more weary than when I started. I feel now that I may ride about to many places where I have need to go.

It is strange how I can ride for miles comfortably and yet to walk to the office and back again to the house puts my heart to 30 or 40 increased beats and I feel fullness all through the chest.

4 P.M. Joseph & Ada went at 2 P.M. to Norristown on the Plymouth Meeting Trolley Cars. I went at 2:15 to Spring Mill & got twenty dollars from Wm. Staley in full of all demands. Then went to Wm. Ely's to collect Coupons on School Bonds. [Was] not at home.

Called on my way home to see poor Jesse Rush who for six years has been bed-ridden nearly, from "Shaking Palsy." Poor Fellow! How helpless! Can't dress or undress himself or attend to his daily needs. How valuable a good wife to such a man! But Oh, how wearisome the life of a wife in such a case. And yet how good and faithful!

9 P.M. Jaywood Lukens & wife, dau. Susan, spent the evening here. Still dry, no rain. Leaves fall all along, yet no frost. They seem to merely dry up on the trees & fly away.

October 6: Sunday.

Slept well, though several times up to see the time and walk around. Feel well. Have had breakfast, a breakfast of milk toasted bread, &c.

This day just like yesterday. So it has been for weeks. Every succeeding day the exact counterpart of the preceding one, dry, bright, hot sun, ground a mass of dust.

Strange how my health has improved, appetite good, sleep well, feel strong compared with the past month of weakness.

John Wood Jr. & his brother "Bill" or "Will" walked up to see me. Tacie and dau. Mary came in Trolley. Bertha & her son Hiram came from Phila. No palp. all day. Maggie & Bayard Corson came in the afternoon.

October 7: Monday.

7 A.M. Slept well. No palp. Somewhat cloudy this morning. Oh, how joyous the people would be if we shall now get plenty of rain! Did but a little in the way of

letter writing yesterday.

It seems as though the attacks of palpitation are all that occupy the days that follow each other. Eat, drink, take med., have palp., take ice-water to arrest the spells are my daily work. Well! At 92 years what else can I do? For nearly fifty years these spells of palp. have been at me. I am just off the lounge and not yet fit to write. Expected to go to Norristown to see John. But Joseph volunteered to attend to my business, so will not go.

October 8: Tuesday.

My 92nd Birthday. Slept well. Up at six, just. The children had asked me if I wished any demonstrations made by them. I said not at all. It has become disgusting to me to see the exhibits in the Newspapers of the great numbers of people announced as attending the anniversary of this and that, child or young lady, or even an only son of a few years. No! We will not have any festivities, & then an almost sensational item in the Newspapers about an event, the same as come to thousands every day. Two palp. spells today. Took water.

9 P.M. Every thing went on as usual, and I went on a day older than I was the day before.. Oh! how little time I can count on here now. Started as I am in my 92nd year of life.

October 9: Wednesday.

Had a pretty comfortable night. Palp. struck me once, just after I had been up & was back in bed, but it went off in a few minutes.

Noon. One spell palp. this A.M. Went off without ice-water.

5 P.M. Dr. Highley has been here, Joseph too since noon. Ada & Susan have gone to the City. Wrote letter to Carrie Cresson. Quite a cold, sharp wind from the North. Little Jimmy brot a dollar for apples sold today. Had a short nap after dinner. Since then, reading & writing.

October 10: Thursday.

Therm. 32°, freezing point. Slept well. 8 ½ A.M. palp. Water fixed things. Good appetite. Joseph & Ada away most of the day. Weather cool, clear, dry as possible. Took a ride of a couple of miles with Joseph. Am feeling pretty strong and comfortable. Politics running strong in this state.

9 P.M. Have taken my med. regularly, ½ & 1/16 of Celeste in the whole day. No palp.

October 11: Friday.

6:30 A.M. Am up and feeling comfortable as regards strength. Good appetite. No palp.

9 A.M. [P.M.] After dinner at 2 P.M., just after I had had a short nap, John Righter & wife called on a brief visit. They had been here but a few minutes when Tacie, Mrs. John Dyer, Miss Baker, her sister and a Miss Dewees came. They had barely got seated when Mr. Lewis A. Lukens, his daughter-in-law, Charles' wife & her daughter came. While they were here, I got palp. and it was so increased by the

reception of them that I had to withdraw from them and lie on the bed for a time. It continued; they left, and the spell left after half an hour or so had passed.

Worked along pretty comfortably until bed-time, or as stated in the heading, 9 o'clock.

October 12: Saturday.

Had two attacks last night but both occurred before midnight & after I had lain quite still a short time, went off. At 4 this morning was struck again, lay still, got asleep & at 6:30 got awake with it on me, but I tossed myself out of bed and it went off, and I was well till 8 ½ A.M., then it came. I lay on the lounge & it went off at 9 A.M. exactly. Slow rains all day. The ground takes it in freely. At home all day & evening and felt pretty well. Ada gone to the City, Joseph away, Edward out "at the barn" with the boys. To be at the barn is to enjoy life [for] small boys.

October 13: Sunday.

Slept well. Up at 6. Washed & dressed, had breakfast 7:30. After that sat up a while then lay myself on the lounge for a few minutes; got asleep. It is now exactly 10 o'clock. Had a very sound sleep. Stormy & rainy out doors. Will now look at "Friends Intelligencer."

11:30. Have nearly finished the Intelligencer, but now feel so weary that it is desirable to rest a while. It seems strange no doubt to some how a quiet reading of such kind, teaching us how to live socially and religiously, should weary one, but so it is. The limbs do not become more weary by walking than does the mind by exercise of the brain.

4 P.M. Kirk Corson, Dr. Highley, Bertha Yocom, Miss Coleman, all here since dinner. At 11 ½ I became very weak in my legs and indeed all over. I had been reading during one hour and a half steadily, and had not taken any Elixir of Iron, Quinine & Strychnia from 8 P.M. the previous day, nor any morph. The absence of these, which I had been used to take in the early forenoon, may have caused this weak feeling. I could spend but a few minutes with the friends. Joseph at 2 P.M. gave me the med. and since then I have been comfortable.

Joseph & son went at 3:40 to the City to stay all night with Dr. Harrison Allen. Ada expected to go with them, but on account of my weakness would not leave me, will go in the morning.

October 14: Monday.

Had a good night. Am sorry that Ada would not go with Joseph to Dr. Allen's for fear that I might need her, but she was up early this morning and gone to Spring Mill to take the train for Phila. before I was up, and so can have as good a visit perhaps as if she had gone last evening.

The day passed about as those which preceded it, a routine, breakfast, dinner, a nap, med. at 10, after dinner again and in the evening.

October 15: Tuesday.

Not quite so good sleep last night as usual. Joseph thinks I should take ¼ gr. of morph. three times daily, and Dr. Percy Corson has left me tablets of that size, so took one at 9 A.M.

Palp. at 11 ½ A.M. So it seems, as I have said before, that the morph. in that dose does not avert the palp. Took the ice-water which stopped it at once.

October 16: Wednesday.

Good night. Up at 6:20. Joseph has tablets of morph. ¼ gr. He thinks I should take steadily, every day, one three times, and I have been doing nearly that only that some days I would try only twice a day. I took three times yesterday and my sleep was just the right kind, so will stick to it, and as they are tablets, not liquid, I can get the same quantity exactly every day.

5 P.M. Dr. Percy Corson has just left after spending an hour with me to my advantage by entertaining me & keeping me off the lounge. Ada went to Washington this morning to spend a few days, and Joseph went with her to Phila., but returned about an hour ago. I am now, I think, feeling much better by having kept up instead of being in bed or on the lounge.

Have had a letter, per mail, from Miss Charlotte Coursen of New York. Since I sent her letter and her original essays to Prof. Hiram, he has written to her and also sent her a copy of his "Aims of Literary Study." There will [be] an interesting correspondence between them soon, very likely. In her letter she sends message of kind regards from the New York distinguished surgeon Dr. Lewis A. Sayre as follows: "Kindest regards of Lewis A. Sayre to Dr. Hiram Corson, the best man in Pennsylvania."

October 17: Thursday.

Did not sleep so well as usual. Up at 6:30. Scarcely went out of the house until 9 P.M. Then only walked around the yard for a few minutes. Keen cold wind drove me in. I have the sitting room so warm that the change to a cool one affects me promptly.

Last night I had a palp. but I waited a short time and as it did not leave, called Joseph and just as he had the water ready for me, it went off.

James Sr. husking corn, James Jr. selling apples. Joseph went to Norristown. What a lovely day from sunrise to sun setting.

October 18: Friday.

I did not take the ¼ gr. pills left me by Dr. Percy. I thought they were perhaps stronger of morph. than that taken by me as Celestial. So I just took the latter and the Elixir as I used to take them.

I slept well, just as I had done before I took the pills. I will therefore stick to the Celestial. After breakfast I lay on the sofa, lounge rather, got asleep and did [not] awaken until 9 A.M. and then felt stupid as an owl. I will try to do with a little less morph. than I usually take. I have tried it several times, but soon every time became so worried with frequent attacks of palp. that I would resume the old, or usual amount. Will perhaps be so this time. Palp. at one P.M. Had to resort to ice-water, that soon checked its rapid beats.

Howard Comfort & wife here for nearly an hour, came in the Trolley from Germantown.

Rode in the carriage to Spring Mill to John Richter's & Isaac Roberts, to get rid of a feeling of weakness that was rendering me stupid. The ride did stir me up greatly, and after that I sat up quite comfortably till bed-time, and I enjoyed my supper very

much. Did not get out of the carriage at Righter's or Roberts'. Felt better for the ride. From then until bed-time 9 P.M., nothing unusual presented. Jimmy sold fallen apples as usual, got \$1.25. Sold also one bushel of potatoes at just about the highest price that potatoes command now. We have more than 100 bushels yet. Palp. Had to take water.

October 19: Saturday.

The beautiful weather continues, though it is slightly cooler. Joseph & son, Mary & self are all who are here now. Joseph went to Norristown to put the Certificate of Beaver Branch Coal Company for 792 shares of stock in my box and make a deposit for me in First National Bank. I remained at home. At 2:30 P.M. after I had had a most pleasant nap of nearly two hours, we concluded that, perhaps a ride to Barren Hill would do me good. We went to Henry Hellings' and feeling weary, I went into the house to rest. After an half hour, we started for home. I at once felt that the trip had been too much for me, but as we had to come home, we came along smartly, but I was over-done, exhausted. I took some of the Elixir & Celestial & lay on the lounge. Oh! how weary I was, completely over-done. I lay still till six P.M., then began to feel better, and yet the weariness and exhaustion were with me. I feel that I must not risk so long a ride again.

October 20: Sunday.

Another bright day like those which with only two exceptional days have come to us day after day for three months nearly.

Had palp. in the night and the water not being in good order, Joseph got up and filled the tin cup with ice & water. I then took it before it had got thoroughly cold and it failed me. Then I lay three hours nearly quietly in bed. Tried the water again & it did its duty quickly. From that time 1 ½ this morning rested well. Read the "Friends Intelligencer" till Jay & Susan came at 10:30. A nap after dinner of only an hour.

Joseph had a call from Mr. Carey of Phila, brother to Senator Carey of Wyoming, residing at Cheyenne, rich merchants. No not merchants, manufacturers of paper in Phila. The caller, Joseph thinks, is worth a million.

The day is quite cool, with a keen air, so I have kept close house. It seemed very quiet all day. Mary & self, Joseph & Edward, all [at home].

October 21: Monday.

Had palp. last night about eleven P.M., but fortunately it went off. Then had it at 2 A.M.; took water. Had it again at 4. Water did not do it on first-trial, so lay down and went to sleep. At 6 awakened and at 6 took water that stopped it. Afterwards I lay till nearly seven. At seven took breakfast. Afterwards lay down on lounge and had a good sleep until 8:45.

Joseph & son left for Washington before seven o'clock. Ada is there. All expected to be here on Wednesday.

Palp. again at 10:30. Water arrested it. Oh! How often it has come to me lately both by night & by day. But I must bear it and be greatly thankful that the water still continues to serve me well.

9 P.M. No more palp. Went to bed expecting it.

October 22: Tuesday.

6 A.M. No palp. since Monday morning. Slept fairly well.

6 P.M. Have not had palp. today, but Oh! how weary, stupid & uncomfortable though I am. Mr. Lewis Lukens came with my daughter Susan, his daughter-in-law, to see me. He is looking well but is very hard of hearing and almost blind. The short visit was useful to me. He is two years younger than myself. I find myself much more comfortable if I put my thick, old overcoat on me.

I can hardly see the lines on the paper, and when I can, can't keep on the lines.

October 23: Wednesday.

Had palpitation last night; have been suffering intensely with neuralgia of the right side. When it first struck me, it was sharp as a two-edged sword all Tuesday, and is hard to bear when I cough. It is useless to go on describing it. Was in bed nearly all day.

October 24: Thursday.

Slept well last night till 5 A.M. today. Then had bad palpitations. Water took one spell off, but in a few minutes another was on.

9 A.M. Have forced myself out of bed, dressed and came down stairs. Had a toast, dry & warm with milk.

Noon. Have just had palp. & taken water with effect & at once followed by dinner. Dr. E. M. Corson has come & gone. Dr. Highley has been here and has gone. Frannie Day & son Richard came at eleven. David Wood, a friend of long ago, came but I was weary after rather long visits from my two medical visitors, so did not see him. O! What beautiful days we still continue to have. Had, by the mail of today, a letter from Wm. J. White, surgeon, Phila.

Nearly 9 P.M. Nothing new this afternoon. Ada is reading and writing letters, so, too, Joseph. Mary can't go around the rooms much. "Tildy" has gotten a most excellent supper for us, and I fear that I ate too much as I am feeling heavy and the stomach too full as though I ate too much. The moon half full. Have written for a barrel of best kerosene oil for stoves & best private homes.

October 25: Friday.

7:30 A.M. Rested well, but had spell of palp. at 5 A.M. Took water. Stopped it at once. Have just had breakfast, toast bread and milk.

After a nap from 1 ½ P.M. to 2, got Jimmy to gear the carriage and take me a two mile ride. Frannie Yocom went home yesterday. Joseph went to Phila. and to come home by way of Germantown & bring Edward to stay till Monday, or Sunday evening. Have been pretty well today since the 5 A.M. spell of palp. Ada has been with us all day.

October 26: Saturday.

6 ¼ P.M. A day like those fifty or sixty which have preceded it. Clear sky, gentle breeze, bright sunshine. Have been busy looking up papers until nearly eleven A.M. After dinner went to bed. Called up in half an hour for a man of business. Too much talk with him, then to bed. Again called to see J. J. Corson. Before he left my

niece Dr. Sarah A Dolley, dau. of Sister Mary, came, talked a while with her but became so weak, had to again to lay down. Soon Joseph came and relieved me. Then I felt how exhausted I was. Did not rise till I was called to supper. How greatly rested! though I did not sleep.

Oh my! how she can talk. She knows much; has been a great student. She is 68 years old. Joseph is entertaining her now, since supper.

Even writing this Saturday news has exhausted me and increased my rapid breathing. 9 P.M. Dr. Sarah Dolley went to Helen Hovenden's to spend the night.

October 27: Sunday.

Once more, a lovely morning. I slept well. Dr. Sumner Dolley and his mother will be here to see me, I expect after noon. Joseph & others can entertain them. I may be let quietly alone. I have had a good breakfast of milk toast. My appetite for food is really good.

3 P.M. Just up from a nap. No visitors yet. Have loveliest days. Slight soreness in right pectoral muscle. Seven P.M. I have just said Farewell to James, Bertha, Dorothea and James Jr. who are just leaving [for] home via Sp. Mill. It is not probable that I will even see James again as his visits are "few and far between", and I can't go to Phila.

I am so glad that he has attended so well to business that he has a fine establishment & has made a competence. Dr. Charles Sumner Dolley and his mother have been here. Have given me a new note for \$500. Hannah Bacon's two sons came at about 2 ½ P.M. on Bicycles.

I am weak and have been in bed nearly all the afternoon. My heart has a great laboring to continue my life. I just got up to do this writing and will try to stay up until 8 P.M., about one hour yet.

Jaywood & Susan have been here and as Joseph & Ada are, they could entertain two Doctors Dolley.

October 28: Monday.

Joseph & son went to the Germantown Academy before I had gotten down stairs. I have a bad, troublesome cough and feel far from comfortable.

One o'clock P.M. Just have had a spell of palp. but stopped it with a tumbler full of ice-water.

5 P.M. At 4:15 had palp.; at 4:30 took water; failed; failed at 4:45. At 5 took the water again & it went off. Just as I wrote this last word at 5 minutes after or so, say 10 minutes after, it went off. It came again and here I am bearing it and writing.

Took a good supper at 6 while palp. was still on me.

October 29: Tuesday.

All night I had palp. Twice during that time it went off, but in from 10 to 15 minutes returned. I slept, off and on, a good deal and at my usual getting up time took ice-water & stopped it and now at 8 A.M., am free from it. Why did I not take the water earlier, because when last evening I stopped it several times, it returned again in a few minutes, also when in the night it twice went off of its own accord, it returned in a few minutes. So I wished to see whether it would leave me at all before morning.

Had a breakfast of milk toast and toast bread and butter. At 11 A.M. had palp. Ice-water did the work. It is now 2 P.M. nearly and I have had a nap. Also I have had per mail a letter from Prof. Alfred Stillé, a long kind of letter. He is 70 years, ten years my junior, but we have had friendly intercourse for about 60 years.

9 P.M. Had a palp. spell at 3 P.M. Water stopped it. I keep an account of the morph. on a slate. Susan still here at 5 P.M. as Ada, who [is] in Phila., will come on the R. R. Road at 5 and then Susan's man will bring Ada here and take Susan home.

October 30: Wednesday.

Had an elegant night. Don't know when I have felt so well the whole night. Feel comparatively strong this morning. It is now 9:30.

9 P.M. I was going to put a dollar or more in my tin box given to me by dau. Susan when lo! I could not find it in the place where I had kept it from prying eyes. I have since "looked every where," as the phrase goes. The box had in it about ten Dols. in silver, five dollars in one bank note and my School Bonds for \$700.

I think I know who took them but it is better perhaps to make no charges. I will see what is to be done to secure the payment of the bonds to me. It is another worry to the hundreds gone by.

October 31: Thursday.

Joseph went, after breakfast, to see the Treasurer and see what we must do about saving our bonds. I am surprised to know how much and how well I can eat of solid food. I have a quite, good appetite and can eat as much nearly as any one in the house.

Nothing unusual more. Had two spells palp. today.

November 1: Friday.

Spell [of] palp. in the night. Water efficient. Last evening I thought I would have much to put down and was about to do it, but did not, and now cannot think what happened or was done yesterday. Here is a beautiful letter from a friend of sixty years ago.

Joseph will go this morning to bring his son from the school to stay until Monday. "Robert & Becky," having just returned from a 15 months visit in Europe, called to see me day before yesterday. They have had a very pleasant time roaming over Germany, France & Italy.

After a nap and getting up at 3 P.M., had a spell of palp. Took water in vain. There was a defect in my taking every dose.

November 2: Saturday.

The spell spoken of on last page cont'd. until 4 P.M. yesterday, in all 13 hours. Took water the 4th time at 4 A.M. this day & it left me.

Noon. At 10 ½ today palp. came again. Took water; went off after a few minutes.

3 P.M. Just before 1 ½ P.M., palp. struck me again. Took water at once, failed. Ate some dinner, went to bed at 12:30, got up at 1:30, took water. It stopped it.

5 P.M. Just had a spell of palp., took water, [it is] over.

November 3: Sunday.

No palp. last night. Forgot to put on my silk coat that Susan gave me years ago for summer time when around home. Whether that was the cause of so much cough as I had till midnight I can't say, but then I got up and put it on and rested very well.

Noon. A Mr. Carey, one of the great Ranch-men of the West & N. West is in the parlor with Joseph & Ada, Jay & Susan & Mary. He is an old friend of Joseph & Ada's, was so in the far-west when they were there last year & many years ago, even when they lived at Fort Bridger. I have to cough so frequently that I can't stay there with comfort. A lovely day! I have had nearly two hours of sound sleep since nine o'clock on the lounge. Oh! what a bright, sunny day. The chickens, geese and ducks scattered all over the lawn hunting a living. But I still feel quite dull and as though I could take a couple more comfortably.

9 P.M. I was pretty miserable, I mean weak all day.

November 4: Monday.

Slept well only that every hour I had to rise to urinate, and that I had to cough a great deal.

5 P.M. I felt very weak and uncomfortable all to forenoon and was much troubled with cough and an unpleasant feeling at the bifurcation of the bronchia [sic]. Just as I wrote the word trouble, palp. struck me. Tildy is now getting the ice-water ready for me. I went to Consho. at 2 ½ P.M. to see Dr. Beaver. He strongly urged the use of Cod-liver oil, "the very finest." Followed by a teaspoonful of Fellows' Hypophosphite of Soda.^{xvii} He also gave me one teaspoonful of Fellows' preparation mixed with a tablespoonful or two of water, and strange to say, the cough and unpleasant tickling at the bifurcation of the bronchial tubes are absent. He gave me some of both the medicines to bring home with me.

It is now just two days, 48 hours since my last spell of palp. I got up at once and took the ice-water. It was intensely cold and stopped the palp. instantly.

9 P.M. Joseph & Ada came home before six o'clock from Germantown School. Since the palp. left me, I have been as usual.

November 14: Thursday.

3 P.M. I have been in bed since last writing, and nearly all the time very miserable, at least uncomfortable, though surrounded by most loving and attentive children, doing all they can to comfort me. I am now writing with my book on my lap just out of bed. My neuralgia was very severe, here & there all over me by times. But most of all did I be uneasy and troubled with a secretion in the windpipes, which I could not "get up" readily, and which caused a suffocating feeling. For the past three days, it has been greatly relieved, but since this morning it seems as though I have "taken fresh cold," and I fear that I shall be much worried with it in the coming night. I must however put up with what comes. Joseph & wife are here and I feel that these "two months relief" has fallen in a time and under circumstances which bear so heavily on them, & really keep them night & day attending to me. Well, I am weary, will lie on the bed again and yet along through the night as best I can, possibly I may be favored with a better one than I expect.

November 15: Friday.

I have just had an attack of palp. which has lasted less almost than five minutes and went off without the ice-water. I had had a pretty good night and had had my breakfast and was quite comfortable. But how it changed all when the palp. struck me! and O! what relief when it ceased. I have written this sitting on the side of the bed. Ada standing near to me holding the ink stand.

November 16: Saturday.

3 P.M. I have had but one attack of palp. since the above. My trouble about the top of the wind pipe has not troubled me badly, not at all today. I am out of bed, my book on my knee. Am most of the time in bed, yes, nearly every hour of it. My spells of being up are about 15 or 20 minutes at a time to take a little toast and milk. It is but little then I can take.

Joseph has enough to do to wait on me, and today Ada, who has been very efficient, has Torticollis so badly that she can't bend her neck in any direction. My condition is a heavy strain on both of them who came from the "Far West", three full days and nights travel for recreation & have a pleasant two months with us. But I cannot help it. I am feeling pretty well today, but all the time fearing the attacks of palp.

November 17: Sunday.

Passed 9 hours under the palpitations and was annoyed all day with a white, glassy phlegm in the top of the wind-pipe, which I had difficulty in expectorating. Eight visitors to see me, but I did not see them. Palp. did not leave till bed-time. Oh! it is hard to bear these infirmities. The ice-water in three trials failed to stop the palps. so I just had to bear it. Slept some after the palp. spell was over.

November 18: Monday.

Had a few naps last night and am as the palps. are gone, troubled only with the secretion in the trachea.

After eight o'clock got out of bed with help of James & put my vest and panting on, also my silk coat, and am now at 9 A.M. sitting up & writing.

Noon to 1 P.M. I have slept pretty comfortably since 10 A.M.. Daughter Ada has brought me poached eggs on toast bread & half a cup of cold milk. Sitting by the window (looking north) up stairs. The day is the most beautiful. I have cont'd. out of bed for nearly an hour since dinner and have been pretty comfortable. I write with the book on my knee, and so the lines are not very like each other.

I could get down stairs possibly and stay up an hour or so, but what good? Got up and walked about the room a few turns, then sat in the arm chair, then again to the bed a while, and so I went on trying not to ----- . .

4:30 P.M. My niece Hannah Corson who has been "Supervisor" in the female department for 17 years and dau. Tacie Cresson came to see me. Spent ¼ an hour and then fearing to worry me, went home by way of the Trolley from Plym. M. I have been pretty comfortable.

My friend Chas. Hunsicker who died a fortnight ago left a will written 3 years ago in which he charges John Slengluff of the Montg'y. Bank with wrong doing at the

Hospital when years ago Mr. Slingluff was a Director. That was not right. I do not yet know what he charged, but what a wrong to have it on record in a will.

5 ½ P.M. Have had a little supper, and should the palp. stay away tonight, I may hope to sleep pretty well. Oh! what have I come to? Such writing!

Hannah Corson's wages, \$30 per month.

November 19: Tuesday.

4 P.M. Helen Hovenden has just left me after a visit of 10 minutes or so.

Dr. McKinsey was here about 3 P.M. He looks very well, quite a fine looking man. He is now in the new house on the bank on Main St., Conshohocken, below Presbyterian Church.

I have had a nap since noon and have sat up out of bed for short spells. I have some fear of a spell of palp. that may last for hours tonight, but if it come I must bear it as best I can. Oh! how lovely it seems to be out of doors as I look out. I hope to have a good night, but feel that Tacie not being used to be disturbed at night, or wait on me, may not be as efficient on waiting upon me as Joseph has been. But I know she will do her best.

John D. Hart, a most flourishing man, a stone mason years ago, died quite recently, almost if not insolvent. Built too largely and expensively, and for weeks before his death had great difficulty in breathing, so had to lean on a chair in front of him, being unable without much suffering to lie horizontally. How many, not nearly so old as myself, have greater distress from their infirmities than I have.

I am anxious to become able to write letters to my friends. It is a comfort to have correspondence with those whom we respect. Joseph Read, son of my nephew Joseph Corson Read for whom I got a place, after his father's death, is now getting \$8 per week, and doing very well.

November 20: Wednesday.

11 A.M. I am still worrying along with my infirmities. The phlegm troubling me greatly. Joseph and Ada were at Atlantic City last night. So I had Tacie to attend to me & she unused to it.

Dr. Percie Corson has been here and prescribed some muriate of Ammonia for my bronchial trouble, which I hope will do me some good.

I am fearfully weak and if palp. should recur again, I will be in a sad way. I force myself out of bed to write a little here, now & then I feel anxious to have Joseph & wife home with me from Atlantic City. It seems so lonely without them, and Joseph knows how to treat me.

November 21: Thursday.

9 A.M. I am up and with some difficulty and much aid from Susan have my clothes on. I awoke in the night at one o'clock but O! how weak. Got to the table & took some cold milk and about a tablespoonful of Maltine; then got to bed and rested till morning with short naps.

This morning two letters from persons wishing to be aided in having their genealogy, one of them wanting a Corson Book.

Oh! what a lovely day, and I so weak. I think it is not likely I can be out of bed more than one morning more, if even one. How kind and attentive Susan is to me. I

really suffer no pain but am annoyed by various feelings and the great weakness, and by phlegm in windpipe, larynx. Still I am not so suffering as many others who have fewer blessings and greater more distressing things to bear. Joseph & Ada still at Atlantic City.

5 P.M. I had palp. from 11 A.M. till 3 P.M. Oh! how wretched I was during these hours. But I am glad that I bore it without taking ice-water. It encourages me to believe that it should come again that it may go off in a few hours.

It surprises me to see how well I can write. Susan has just kissed me goodbye. As Joseph and Ada are here, she goes home to rest. How ardently I hope the palp. will not return for some days at least. I have no prospect of ever being more comfortable than I am now. But if the palp. should stay away, I will have some rest, though in great weakness.

9 P.M. Joseph has given me an enemata of water and soap, which has acted pretty well, and I hope to get along pretty well tonight.

November 22: Friday.

I had a fine sleep last night until 3 A.M. and some naps since, but with an uneasiness in the rectum that was worrying. Have slept a good deal today. Nothing special in the morning paper. Joseph has gone to Phila. on his way to bring his son Edward from school to spend the time till Monday morning. I take light meals 3 times a day, yet how weak I am. I see no prospect of more ease and comfort and less worry than I now have. How glad would I be could I be rid of all the annoyances and infirmities of old age during the short stay I shall have here! And yet how much better is my condition than that of many others!

Three lawyers of only middle age died in Norristown last week, beside three or four prominent residents. While I sit here and write, my limbs feel so weak that I can hardly refrain from pitching forward. Jaywood Lukens and wife are invited to supper here this evening by Joseph and Ada, as it is Joseph's sixtieth birth-day, he being 59 years old today. How it amazes me when I look at his grey hair that his father should still be living.

A lovely out-of-doors it appears to be as I look through my room's northern window, and yet I am shut-up here. Hope is still left to me that I may be able to bear my trials from day to day until my time expires. Ada is up here busy to get things to have a nice tea table. It is now three o'clock.

9 P.M. Have been sitting up nearly an hour. John J. Corson was here this P.M. Dr. Percy Corson was here a few minutes. Joseph & Edward his son got home from the school. Jay & Susan came to tea here as it is Joseph's birth-day, 59 years old. I am still free from palp., but weak. Oh! how weak.

The night Oh! how I shall be blessed if the palp. does not come and I be able to sleep. We have fire in Entry, dining room, back parlor, kitchen, so it is warm all over. Much pain under shoulder blade, but change of position will no doubt relieve it directly. Oh! how I do fear the coming of the palp. in my weak state.

November 23: Saturday.

Slept pretty well, indeed very well. The early morning came in almost entirely in accord with our Poet's account of its coming in the Country, "with song of birds and hum

of bees, and odorous breath of swinging flowers, with swaying trees, come in the early morning hours.”

At nine o'clock Joseph went to Norristown to see John J. Corson, who seems to be our right-hand man in all financial matters. Dr. Percy came at 10 A.M. I had been in bed until that time. I feel pretty strong.

The agent of the Biographical Publishing Company of Philadelphia has just brought me a copy of the Encyclopedia of Montgomery County, with a metal negative and 100 copies of my photograph, for which I have just paid him forty-five dollars, fifteen for the Book & my autobiography, and thirty additional for the portrait being published in it. (Nov. 23rd, 1895, 11 o'clock). It seems to be a good deal of money to expend for my photograph, but as it can make only that much less for my children in the dividing of my estate, and as I can never have it done again, let the money go. The Book, the Negative, the 100 photographs are all finished up to the promise of the Publishers. It is a fine work, well gotten up.

I have now been up half an hour, so must go to the bed again a while.

3 o'clock P.M. Have just written a letter to my friend Powel Childs, and it has wearied me so that I must go to the bed. Joseph & Ada have gone to see Clara Sholl & dau. Anna, in Conshohocken. Clara is my brother Joseph's daughter. Anna has graduated at Cornell under her Uncle Hiram's teaching and is a writer for some high periodicals. She is proving to be a girl of fine talents.

9 P.M. I must to bed. The Paregoric that I have taken has made me very comfortable by removing the pressure on the rectum, as if I should be purged.

November 24: Sunday.

Had a good night, good sleeps until 3 A.M. today. Then an affection of my heels of a most peculiar kind annoyed me so as utterly to prevent sleep or rest. Got up at daylight and sat up till after breakfast. I worry Jos. very much by my many complaints, but I can't help it. Had a spell of palp. soon after going to bed last night but it soon went off [in] about two hours. Dr. E. M. Corson has been here, also Jaywood Lukens & wife, my dau. Susan.

Noon. I have had dinner and for once at least, did not eat too much, I think. I have not slept much this forenoon. In hope that I will be free from palp. this P.M. and the coming night, I will now go to bed and rest my weary, weak body.

4 o'clock. Bertha has just bid me farewell and gone for home, as has Jim Cresson too. I have been having some palps. and am now out of bed for a change before supper. Very dull-looking out doors and the night closing around me. Oh! how long the nights are. I am not suffering much save the weakness. Should I not get palp. tonight, I may, perhaps, [have] a comfortable night.

Write on Monday to the City Sixes, also Kensington Bank, Sec. W. Ely about the School Bonds. See about price of apples & potatoes.

November 25: Monday.

Dr. Percy Corson has just gone away after a short visit to me. I awoke this morning very weak after a great deal of sleep last night, and after a palp. which lasted a few hours in the fore part of the night, and another that occurred since midnight but did not continue long.

I have just taken a dose of Laxol = castor oil made pleasant in some way, and of which the dose is only half an ounce.

Ada and son have gone to his school. How I do long for something to make me feel as of old-times. I will try to stay out of bed a good deal today so as to rest well tonight, if that will aid in effecting it.

2 ½ P.M. Have just awakened and am from an afternoon nap. It is better for me to not sleep away all my time in bed. Have written to City Treasurer to send me check for Dividends for 6 mo., also to Kensington Bank.

7 o'clock. I have been up an hour and had supper of which I took not half as much as I have generally taken, believing as I do that I ate too much at every meal. I over-loaded the stomach, not that I took much, but too much for my weak condition. I feel now much better than if I had taken more. I must hereafter be sparing in my eating. All my life I have been accustomed to eat a good deal for I was nearly always well and could bear it, but I am sure I will feel much better & take light meals, a mere nothing indeed.

Only 7 P.M. The long night before me. How I shall rest I know not, but if I escape an attack of palp. I may do very well. I will try to stay up till nine P.M. so that I can rest better when I get to bed. I write only about myself the reader will say. Yes I do. I have nothing else to write about, but not half of my infirmities & weakness do I disclose. I cannot put them in words and an object of my writing at all is to employ myself and thus forget for a brief time how weak I am.

November 26: Tuesday.

9 A.M. Slept Oh! how much last night! & how comfortable I was on awakening, save the sense of great weakness of which I so often speak. It seems to me that no one can live but a very short time who is so desperately weak. I have had some breakfast. The room is already fixed up for me, so I guess I will lie down again.

Nearly 12 o'clock. I have slept since about 9 A.M. and when I awoke at 11 A.M. never weaker than I then was. But I got Joseph to help me up on to the side of the bed, and he just then discovered that he had omitted giving me my usual dose of Elixir, Iron, Quinine and Strychnia. He has since given it to me, and I feel better. Gave me also some Maltine as a stimulant. My weakness is indeed extreme, but I push myself to get up and write a little and take some food. I will now try to write a brief letter of encouragement to Joseph Corson Read, an assistant in a Norristown drug store, what we used to call an "apothecary shop."

12 ½ noon. Have just finished a letter to Joseph C. Read. I have been up now an hour or two and my back is beginning to weaken and pain, so must lie down and take a rest, if not a sleep.

2:20 P.M. Just out of bed again where I had slept soundly, and from which I have risen weak and languid. It stirs me up and makes me feel more like myself to get up and stagger to the little table here and write the little I have to say. That little is what has come into my mind since last writing. In addition to what else it does for me, it induces the desire to expectorate the small accumulations of phlegm. They present themselves and are expectorated with ease. Some weeks ago, I was greatly annoyed with a feeling at the top of the windpipe, or the larynx, of a lodgment of something that ought to come away, but which I could not reach without much cough and effort.

November 27: Wednesday.

10 A.M. Was up at 7:30, took some breakfast and after a half hour or so, went to bed and now just up again, feeling very weak in the limbs, and indeed all over. Sent a letter to Prof. Hiram this morning. Oh! what a lovely day. I enjoy it somewhat looking out of my north window as I sit in Mother's big stuffed chair.

Have just rec'd. check for \$22.50 from Kensington Bank, ½ yr. Div. for November. I feel that I ought to stay up a while but I am too weak to bear it long. It occurs to me here again as it often does that here I am alone of all my generation, all the relatives, friends and companies of my young days gone from me, leaving me a weak, old man alone, but my children how good they are to me, and what a comfort to me. One and all are ever ready to add to my comfort, but yet they can't take away entirely the sense of great weakness which is always, in my waking hours, with me.

What a source of comfort to me that I have ample income to supply all the needs that can be purchased. How many good, old people are worried to find themselves unable to get the essentials for comfortable living.

"To no peculiar lot of Life is happiness confined

But to the self approving smart and firm contended mind."

2 P.M. Have gotten up from taking a nap. Today the Press has been issued by women. This means that the Press Company have allowed the bright women writers to the Press and others of note, to take the place of those who daily get it up, and issue one to see what kind an one women would produce. It is a very large paper and we would not discover that there had been new hands at work upon it. It is an interesting one and I will save it. My niece Sarah ----- .

Out of doors it is lovely beyond my power to describe, as I see it from an up-stairs window.

Some years ago Judge Yerkes of Bucks County sentenced a fellow Lawyer to 22 years imprisonment in the Penitentiary for embezzlement of a few thousand dollars. It shocked me at the time, and often, O! how often! as I look out on the lawn, do I think how cruel it was.

The poor fellow had eloped, but he was so unhappy about it that he only got out to one of the Western States when he concluded to come back and give himself up, which he did. One year to such a man would have been sufficient. The disgrace & the year's confinement would have been as effective as this dreadful sentence.

6 P.M. I have had a light supper, after a nap of an hour. Susan was up a few minutes only today. Ada has just given me a fine tablet, good size and first class paper.

No out-door news has come to me today. Niece Ida Corson came to see me and found me sitting in the bay-window. Joseph had gotten me to go down the big stairs for a change, as the window had the full blaze of the sun, and the lawn was so green & beautiful. I went down well enough, but after a half hour there, I came up, but O! with what weakness before I reached it, the last step, and Joseph aiding me all he could. I was just so I could not have gone a step further alone. I tumbled into bed and after a while got over the fatigue.

I shall not likely try the experiment again unless there is a good, strong person at hand for aid in an emergency. Dr. Percy Corson came and staid a few minutes, as long, I suppose, as he thought I could bear without a drain on my strength.

What will I do for help when Jos. and Ada go away next week? The girls will come and go, but that is not like having one steadily. Well, we will see when the time shall have come, which it may never do to me.

November 28: Thursday.

Thanksgiving Day. I had palp. last night from midnight until 15 minutes of six A.M. Afterwards slept until nearly 9 o'clock, when I awoke, weaker it seemed to me than ever before. I then took my Elixir and also some Maltine with Coca Wine. Since then have been still, sitting in the arm chair, but I of course took some toast & milk & coffee.

Oh! what a skeleton I am. I can put both hands and wrists through my one wrist-hand. A lovely day with Therm. at 27° F. How writing this makes me pant! I don't wish to spend all my time in bed, so force myself up and into the arm chair, where I sit as long as I can well bear it.

When I had palp. last night for six hours nearly, I did not call any one, but just lay still & bore it. It was a trial as it does not seem so lonely if some one is about to do some needed thing for one.

O, can I hold on much longer in this weak state!!

I pin here the paper furnished by the grand daughter of my Sister Mary Adamson, to the one day issue of the Phila. Press by women only. She was one of the group of bright women who conceived the importance of doing it, to show that women are as capable as men to make an interesting paper.

November 29: Friday.

At 3 P.M. palp. struck me. In a few minutes went off and in a few more minutes returned. I had had dinner & was asleep when it struck me.

4:20. With palp. on me, I have been reading Prof. Hiram's "Aims of Literary Study." When my mind became absorbed in a subject, I almost forget the palp. It continued on me till 10:30 at night, the palp. did.

The palp. which I have spoken of above lasted me till 10:30 P.M. Since then slept pretty well and at 7 ½ A.M. was up and had had breakfast. It is trying to my patience to have so long spells of palpitations.

Joseph has already 8 A.M. been in my room with my breakfast, and while I ate made the bed. Never did I see a quicker, handier man.

Went to bed soon after breakfast and have just now awakened and got up at one quarter of eleven. O! how stupid I feel. Will sit up a while and try to feel like myself again. The day out-doors of my window looks lovely, that is, appears so to me. Oh! I hope palp. will stay away a day or two, this time

2 P.M. Frannie just starting for home.

November 30: Saturday.

Slept pretty well through the long night but I am so miserably weak, but I am all my awake hours far from comfortable. Before breakfast I took a dose of Laxol, the castor oil prepared so as to be not so unpleasant as the raw stuff. Have not had a movement of the bowels for a week. Took my soft breakfast of milk toast and will now wait results, nine o'clock.

Susan has just come in. Jos. & Ada will leave tomorrow, Jos. to go far West, Ada to Germantown to board where Edward does, while he shall stay at school.

The printed slip [clipping pasted in the diary] is Frannie Day's Report of the doings of the Home for Destitute colored children.

6 P.M. Have been most of the time in bed today. Tacie has come down to stay all night with me. I will not I hope need anything. Should the palp. not come, I will likely be very comfortable. I am avoiding to eat much.

Tomorrow Bertha will come to stay a week with me as Joseph and Ada & little Edward will go away. The next week one of the other girls will take a week. I wonder how it will go. Pretty well I think, if palp. stays away, and if it should come, they can help me bear it as well as Joseph and Ada could. I have been comfortable today, but the palp. has been away so long that I fear it will soon be here again, as it does not stay away long at a time. When it does come now, the last few times it stays from 7 to 10 hours. Still I must bear it as well as I can.

Helen Hovenden is preparing a nice Studio and Art Gallery connected with the dining room porch, just inside of it. I regret that I cannot go over to see it. My portrait painted by Thomas, her husband, has been put in a beautiful frame and has a conspicuous place there. She expects to have several of his works, all that she can get put into it. It was finished two weeks after 1894 had passed, just in the beginning of 1895. I have quite a number of photos of myself taken by Gutekunst, just about the same day that his painting was finished.

I am writing just after I have taken a light supper on December first, '95. Oh! how I hope the palp. will not attack me tonight.

Some people will think it is wrong for Joseph to leave me and go so far away, but I can't see what difference it makes whether he is 100 miles away or three thousand. Ada will be in Germantown, but that is no better. She is going to stay with their son Edward.

December 1: Sunday.

I had a pleasant night, good, long sleeps and a pleasant awaking. Feel pretty well this morning. In about an hour, at 9 A.M., Jos. & Ada will leave me, Joseph for Fort Russell nearly three thousand miles away, Ada and Edward for Germantown School. As far as Joseph is concerned the parting will be most likely, altogether likely for ever, as I am in my 92nd year and not able even to get up stairs alone, even if I can get down. Well, it can't very well be avoided. He thinks he may resign in the Spring; he can do it then.

I expect Bertha before ten o'clock. Bertha has come. It is 12:30 and she has given me dinner. I eat very well. It seems almost ravenously for a sick person, but it is only two small slices of toast bread, one of them in the form of milk toast, the other dry with butter. In the morning an Egg is added to them.

December 2: Monday.

I had rather poorer night than usual, felt very weak. Indeed twice when I got up it seemed as though my knees would give way. This morning after rising and when just about to take some breakfast, I felt very, very weak, but just then Bertha asked me if I had taken my medicine, and then I could see what made me feel so weak. I had not

taken a single dose since Bertha came. Twice I had missed. She had not been told when and how often I was to have it, and I had not thought of it. So, I then took a larger dose than usual and then the breakfast and since nine A. M. feel stronger.

December 1st [was] the last time I took the new fashioned castor oil, should take again about next Saturday or Sunday, possibly may not need it till Monday 9th. I must send and get more Laxol. It is 25 cts. per bottle.

7 P.M. Palp. came on me at 11:30 A.M. and lasted till about 7 P.M. While it was on me, I was taking my supper at the side of the bed, indeed I was sitting on the side of it, for fear that I might not be able to get in should I get out. Sure enough after eating a little, I had to throw myself down on the bed. Fortunately while this was occurring, the palp. went off.

After Joseph left, neither Bertha nor myself thought of giving me my Elixir, &c. So two times I was without it and just as I was [in] agony to try to sit up to take breakfast, it occurred to me of its omission, and thus my excessive weakness was partly accounted for. So weak was I that I could not sit out of bed on the chair. So, I took a little more than usual of the medicine and that, with the breakfast, brot me up some, but I have not been able until now, to get here to write. As the palp. is away, possibly I may get some good sleep tonight.

Palp. came on at 9 P.M., lasted till 7 next morning. Then at 6 P.M. again & lasted all night, so I had it about 19 hours with only a few hours between the two spells. How I suffered that night!

December 3: Tuesday.

Had palp. all the morning from 9 A.M. till 2 P.M. when it left of its own accord. It is now 7 P.M. and it has not returned yet. I am so unable to write that I shall spoil the facts.

December 4: Wednesday.

Palp. not yet returned. Have gotten some Nitrite Emil [amyl] ready to take if it should come.

Have given seven of my fine large photos to Aunt Emily's sons and daughters, I want most of my nephews and nieces to have each one.

3 P.M. Dr. Ellwood has just been here to see me. I have been in bed almost the entire day. Have been up to write here and to write a letter to my friend David Newport & one other and to my meals. I would be very comfortable if I did neither fear the coming of palpitation nor its active effect on me. Dr. Percy Corson has been here. He comes daily. I have had good long sleeps since the palp. stopped.

My appetite is pretty good, so good that I long for its coming sometimes, partly because "Tildy" scarcely gives me enough, not knowing that it has improved.

December 5: Thursday.

11 A.M. No palp. yet, but still I am bothered with the phlegm in my trachea. Yet I am greatly blessed by the absence of palp. Took Laxol this morning at 8 o'clock. Dr. Percy has just come in. He wants me to take a prep. of Muriate of Ammonia, and I think I will do so.

My reply to Mrs. Alan Wood after receiving her present of grapes was rec'd. with

great favor, and she intends to preserve the letter.

After dinner I got palp. Then as I wanted to try the Amyl and did not like to do it without having one of the doctors with me, I sent for them and they, Dr. Highley, Percy and Ellwood were all here, but not till it had ceased. So they all went away with the understanding that Dr. Percy would come if sent for in the night.

7 P.M. I had a sleep after they left, then got up and have had supper. How I shall get on through the night I know not, but must try to bear whatever comes.

Bertie Yocom Jr. has come up to stay all night, perhaps longer. Have had a note from Joseph, who is speeding onward on to the far West.

December 6: Friday.

4 P.M. had a pretty good night. Some palp. but by waiting it left. Have been in the bed most of the day without palp., or rather, though it came it soon went away again. Dr. Percy is the only Doctor who has been here. Of out-door-news there seems to be (dau. Bertha says) only murders, suicides, kindred crimes.

Lovely, cool bright day out of doors. Will sit up a while before supper, so as to enjoy being up then for a time. Will write to Joseph now.

December 7: Saturday.

Good night, save that I slept too hard. At 3 A.M. I first got awake. It was an unusual long sleep, and when I awakened felt exhausted, that I could not tell whether I would faint or not. Called Bertha and got her to give me some Maltine and after that I slowly recovered my usual feelings. It seemed to me though that a little more and the result would have been "Heart failure."

After 10 minutes or so, I felt pretty comfortable. Afterwards slept pretty well till 5 ½, short naps, and then after that time until 8 ½ slept soundly and awakened feeling pretty well. Got up and have now, 9 A.M., had breakfast.

2 P.M. Have had an hour's sleep. Wm. Ely came to say that the School Board had agreed to pay me for my mislaid or stolen 700 Dols. of School Bonds and arranged with me to pay the money to me next Tuesday at 3 P.M. when I will try to have John J. Corson and daughter Susan here.

Oh! if I were not so weak, how I would like to be out in the cool air. It looks to be so pleasant out towards Plymouth and on Cold Point Hill beyond.

3 P.M. Have written to John J. & also to Susan to be here to meet the school board.

8 ½ P.M. Have had a Trolley visit from Frannie, and she has just left for home. Have not yet had palp. Have had supper and a brief nap. How will I get on tonight? Who knows? No one.

Mary just came to say good night.

December 8: Sunday.

Morning, 10 minutes of 10. I had palp. as soon as I got awake this morning, but it went off in ¼ hour. After an hour or so, it came & went again, and about 10 minutes ago it came and is on me now.

One P.M. The spell still on me. John J. Corson here. I got up so that Bertie can make the bed, so that I may lie on my back when I get in.

4 P.M. I have been in bed most of the time since day-light this morning with palp. on me. Geo. Corson & wife came to see me a few minutes since. I had gotten up and was sitting in the big, stuffed arm chair. So, I said Geo. might come up. We talked a few minutes and then the palp. left. That was only a few minutes ago. How I do hope it is away for the whole night.

George gave me an account of his visit to Cedartown and Thomas Adamsons and sons who live there. They have a hard time to get up a boom, which will bring them out square, and a light margin of profit.

December 9: Monday.

I went to bed last night with a spell of palp. on me and awakened at one A.M. this day quietly resting and the heart pursuing the "usual tenor of its way," and I have not had any palp. since. I cont'd. in bed save only a few minutes for breakfast until 10 o'clock and then awakened so weak and helpless that I felt I could not live.

4 P.M. David Newport, my very good friend came to see me today. It was a pleasant visit of about ¼ hour. Dr. Ellwood Corson & Dr. Percy Corson both came after dinner. So, I have talked too much and been talked to too much.

The night is closing around me and though I have not had palp. since midnight, I fear that I may be attacked before bed-time and have it all night. But I must just bear it the best I can. I am a good deal out of breath as I write, just from having had too much talk.

December 10: Tuesday.

4 P.M. Wm. P. Ely has been here & paid me for the lost bonds & accrued interest 724 Dols. & some cents, after deducting my School tax. John was here. I signed an indemnifying Bond. Harold as attorney took affedent [sic]. I gave the check and one for \$22.50 from Kensington Bank to deposit.

Frannie has come to take Bertha's place. She brought little Dick with her. It is surprising how the needed talk on the subject has hurried my breathing. Susan is doing my monied matters but my signature is occasionally needed. Ground covered still with snow, badly put in words.

Half past 8 P.M. Fear I shall not rest very well though some feeling that I shall be troubled with a feeling that I should be "moved."

December 11: Wednesday.

10 A.M. Did not rest very well. Have rested finely though since breakfast. But now that I am up, O! how weak I feel. How I wish I could get to the barn and see the animals. Bertha & Frannie are making the bed and how happy they seem. Nothing from the mail today. Took my first dose of Syrup of Figs this morning.

December 12: Thursday.

10 A.M. The Syrup of Figs did well. Very cold. Have staid in bed until now and have been very comfortable. Got up to pay a bill. Rested finely last night.

3 P.M. Have just awakened from a good sleep. "Very cold out of doors, says Frannie. Got to the table to write, to say something, and now can't remember what it

was. I expect Susan thinks it too cold to come see me today, knowing that as Frannie is here, it is not specially needed.

I write with much care, and how well it looks. It is commendable to do things carefully. Sent a letter to Joseph this A.M. I am told that surgeon Thomas G. Morton wishes to come to see me. Robt. R. Corson will bring him up. He has long been my friend, as was his Father, Dr. Saml. George, an eminent surgeon and an author.

6 P.M. Have taken Elixir, &c., twice today, will take it again at 8 ½ P.M. Took at 5 o'clock up to 4 of Celeste. I think, indeed am very certain that in addition to the above, yesterday I took two teaspoonsful of Paregoric at bed time. Frannie says I did not take the Paregoric. I am very certain she is mistaken and if I should not take it this evening before bed-time, that I shall probably not rest well.

December 13: Friday.

Therm. 12° F. Slept pretty well. Got up at 8 for breakfast, then went to bed again and staid there very comfortably until a few minutes ago. It is now ¼ of 12 noon. Tacie came down in the Trolley. After dinner I will go to bed again and stay until supper time if I should be as comfortable as I have been all forenoon.

4 P.M. Have been in bed most of the time since breakfast. Tacie has been here. [She] just left for home by the Trolley. I am very stupid and dread the night. Dr. Percy has been here for a few minutes. Should palp. stay away all night, I shall perhaps be comfortable. I ought not to be complaining & having fear of palp. and restless nights. I certainly could not have less pain, better appetite and more strength at the age of 91 & 4 months? I should rather be thankful that I have as much enjoyment as I am having. Again the night is closing around me. What of comfort or discomfort it will bring to me no one can tell.

December 14: Saturday.

Had a good night. Have slept too much this forenoon. Dr. E. M. Corson, Dr. Percy Corson, dau. Susan have been here. A lovely day. How much good a carriage ride would do me, were it not so cold & I so stupid.

I will try to stay out of bed longer during the day, not be so stupid. I will try writing letters. If one ceases to do that, our correspondents will soon not write, but will wait for one to reply to.

I have just heard that John Wood Senior, he who has been so long the head of the Wood's Rolling Mill Establishment in Consho., has had another "slight stroke," as the phrase goes.

3 P.M. Isaac Roberts of Spring Mill has just gone after a brief visit to me. Gave him 3 photos, my fine ones, one for self, one for brother Hiram & one for my gd. nephew Charles Highley, cashier of the Malvern Bank.

No day could be more beautiful than the present one appears to be as I look out from my up-stairs window.

December 15: Sunday.

7 P.M. Have had that rapid pulse, which is not quite palp., for four hours; went off at 4 P.M. Have just tried to eat a little supper, but Oh! how little I could take.

Dr. Thomas Corson came to see me this P.M. I fear the night. Frannie is attending as possible to me.

I will try to sit up a while before I take the bed for the night. Isaac Roberts & wife of Consho. came. Oh! how I am worried in these my old days, with palp. and the other irregularities of the heart's action. Dr. Ellwood and Dr. Percy Corson both here just before dark. But how little they can do for me. I must bear it and hope on for the better.

December 16: Monday.

Slept well and no palp., or the other increased action of the heart until day-light. It went off before breakfast time. At 8:40 took small tablespoonful of Laxol. Purged me nicely at 12:40.

10 A.M. Have just written a letter, rather a long one, as it has wearied me, to Dr. Mary Willett [Willits] of the Norristown Hospital for the insane.

3 P.M. Took oz Maltine, six Celestial just now. Had some Sweet oil poured into my ear, and it makes it feel better, not so dry.

Ellwood Roberts, author of Lyrics of Quakerism came to see me about my medical papers. Caroline Mitter (Mrs.) of Blue Bell also came, but I did not see her.

December 17: Tuesday.

Slept well last night. Wrote several replies to letters. Have been pretty busy when awake. It is now 4 P.M. and I feel that the bed will be comfortable.

December 18: Wednesday.

Slept well till 5 A.M., broken every 1 ½ hours by a need to get up. In bed till eleven o'clock, as at 5 A. M. I was attacked by a sharp neuralgia in my left shoulder blade. I moderated it so much by morph. & Paregoric by that time that I could bear to get up and sit in a chair, and to engage in writing this.

At ten o'clock I got most earnest, I almost said loving letters, from Miss Mary Grew, an old antislavery friend; from Carrie Cresson who has been greatly cheered by passing the examination in "Massage," over the heads of all the contestants more than 30 in number, and a third letter from Dr. Thomas Wistar, all ardent friends of mine. How satisfactory & cheering to receive such tokens of esteem.

Oh! what a lovely day as I see it from my window and yet I can't go out. But how thankful I am that I have so many blessings in my room. I will now try to sit up until dinner comes and is over. My shoulder aches me pretty badly, but as I know it [is] a neuralgic pain, I will let it alone.

3 P.M. Prof. Hiram Corson's wife is here since dinner time. A pleasant woman. There is but little neuralgia about my shoulder & pectoral muscles. Have been in bed but not to sleep since last writing. Oh! what a pleasant afternoon, mild as mildest September. I hope not to talk to any one until bed-time, so as to excite or worry me and prevent sleep, which I begin to need.

Mrs. Corson says her son Dr. Eugene, now about 40 years of age and practicing in Savannah, has written a paper on Electricity and which has been published in one of the scientific Paris Journals, which has elicited the highest commendation of the Paris Scientists, and which will soon be published in pamphlet form and in English. I hope so.

He has a fine education and is a talented youth of 40. Mrs. Corson says Prof. Hiram has on his door plate at his home, "Hiram Corson Jr."

My shoulder & chest muscles are beginning to increase in neuralgic pain.

December 19: Thursday.

9 A.M. It is now 9 o'clock and I have just gotten out of bed after a brief palp. since a hearty breakfast. At about midnight I was struck with palp., that kind rather, which while it is not the real palp. that affects the head as well as the heart, does not fall very short of the real in the frequency of the pulsations, and is rather easier to bear. Since midnight when it occurred, it kept steadily at work until just before breakfast time, then left for me to eat breakfast and then returned. A queer thing. Are there any rules governing it?

What a beautiful day! A letter from the son of Saunders Lewis, Dr. Morris J. Lewis, 1316 Locust St., Phila. I feel that I ought to go down stairs. Will try it I think this morning.

11:30 A.M. Have had a nap and am now up to write here and have a change. Mrs. "Prof." Hiram Corson of Cornell University has gone with Helen & Ida to see

1) Hiram's sister "Hannah" who is principal overseer of the Female Insane in our great Hospital in Norristown with its thousand female insane inmates;

2) Isabella and her children, Isabella, wife of George Lenzi, Photographer in Norristown whose children, three daughters and one son, now Teller in Norristown National Bank, and all of them fine persons. After seeing the Hospital & Hannah, they will return to Dr. E. M. Corson's home & take dinner;

3) Clara Sholl, wife of William in Conshohocken, their dau. Clara. Clara has a son mar. and living in Philad. and engaged in some business. Not so promising as he should be, yet fulfills his duties much better than some of the most petted sons of the "best families" there.

12:30 P.M. Just had an enjoyable dinner. It is wonderful what a good appetite I have, toast, one dry piece, one with milk enough to moisten it, coffee & Butter and porridge.

2 P.M. Have been in bed but not to sleep. The weather is like the mildest Spring.

4 P.M. I am staying out of bed and walking about in the up-stairs rooms a good deal. Tacie has just come to take Frannie's place for a week, each daughter takes a week.

4 ½ P.M. I wanted very much to see my portrait as painted by Thomas Hovenden when I was in 90th year of my age, now that it has a fine frame on it. So half hour since, I put on my over-coat & rode out to Helen's and saw the new Art Room., gotten up by Helen & filled with the paintings of Thomas & herself. It was somewhat risky, but the old gray mare whisked me out there rapidly, and home again in a few minutes.

The portrait is wonderfully improved by being dressed in its new frame. It is a beautiful room now filled as it is with their paintings.

7 P.M. Have had a light supper and a quiet rest in the chair for half an hour. Hope that the palp. will not come to me tonight. I came to the table to write about the word "Altruism" in its most comprehensive meaning, but find myself not in the mental

condition to do it satisfactorily to myself. I think it is in accord with the views of Elias Hicks, the great exemplar of the body of Friends who bear his name.

Letter from Joseph..

December 20: Friday.

10 A.M. Slept finely last night. Frannie has gone to Norristown and Tacie is here in her place.

11:40. Prof. Hiram's wife has just been in to see me. She was at Norristown yesterday to see Hannah (Hiram's sister) at the big Hospital, and Isabella and her children. She was pleased with Isabella's girls.

I have been determined for some time to have Mrs. Corson to visit the girls, and especially since Hiram did not go to see them. It is not right for those of a family who have achieved distinction to neglect, or ignore those who equally meritorious have not been able to reach the same place in social life. Hiram's wife is a smart, pleasant woman, French woman, but talks English pretty well. She is author of some one literary work that I have never seen.

December 21: Saturday.

Got through the day in the usual way, save that I went in the carriage to Corson Lime-Kilns. It was too long a ride. There is no use in trying to strengthen myself by much exertion. I will not ride again, I think.

Lovely weather.

December 22: Sunday.

Had pretty good night. Took tablespoonful Laxol before breakfast, about 8 A.M. Oh! what a lovely day it is.

Letter from Mary Willitt [Willits].

10:40. Oh what a good sleep I have had!! Feel the better of it too. Oh! how enchanting is the view northward from my room. The sun-light so bright, the trees swaying, "the last night's rain still lingering with a special grace," make me feel that I would like "so much," the pet saying, to be out there enjoying it.

3 P.M. The Laxol purged me at 2 P.M. and at the same time a palp. that struck me while John J. Corson was here and talked a few minutes went off. Since 2 P.M. have been in bed.

Charles Edward Foulke, son of Richard, M.D. was with John. He is a fine looking man.

As I lay in bed, I traded geese & one duck for special breed of fowls, "Buff Brahmas" & with George for Black Fowls of high degree, traded a pair of geese.

How strong habit is. The long habit of trafficking still strong even in our latest stages. Old friend Samuel Livezey once in his old age told me, he had always liked to have a little land, but it is not so profitable as "Traffic." He had long had a store besides his fine farm. The poet long ago wrote,

- 1) "The tree of deepest root is found,
- 2) Least willing still to quit the ground.
- 3) T'was therefore said, by ancient sages,
- 4) That love of life increases with years,

- 5) So much that in our latest stages,
- 6) when pain grows sharp and sickness rages,
- 7) The greatest love of life appears.”

December 23: Monday.

2 P.M. I went to bed last night feeling, that as I have been purged, I would likely have good naps of a couple hours each through the night as was usual for me when in my then condition. So it proved, and at last awoke at 5 A. M. feeling very comfortable after a 2 hours nap. I then dropped away, sleep and awake, before nine A.M. with palp. upon me and feeling that Death was upon me. This held on an hour more, then palp. left and I have gradually improved so as now to be in my condition of yesterday. How shall I get along this P.M. & tonight!? It seems now as though I shall not need another Diary.

4:30 P.M. Have had a nap and again write & keep the Record complete. “Dark” is settling around us. The coming gloom is not pleasant to me. I am now just about as I was yesterday at this time.

5 P.M. Gd. son Edward Corson, Joseph’s son has just come to the table when I had been writing and then leaning back in the big stuffed chair and with one leg thrown over the little table before me, was reflecting about old times when a little fellow tripped into the room and greeted me with “well grandfather how do you do.?” He was Joseph’s son who left school to spend the vacation. How bright, how cheery is youth!

December 24: Tuesday.

12:30 A.M. Slept pretty well part of this night (written at midnight). Awoke at 12:15 by the little clock. I looked at it and after a minute or so, palp. left.

8 A.M. Am up after some most excellent sleep. Am dressed and awaiting breakfast.

2 P.M. At eleven o’clock the palp. struck me. It has just now been stopped by a tumbler of ice-water. So the palp. was on me 3 hours. Susan opposed my taking the ice-water, as it might come soon again. Now here we see it’s been off 18 hours, now at 8 A.M., 25th.

December 25: Wednesday.

8 A.M. It is not yet a bright morning, but will be a bright day, I think. Not yet at breakfast.

Robin Redbreast. There is no legend which people will not believe, if it relate to religious matters. [Dr. Corson’s comment on a short newspaper clipping pasted in the diary.]

Here at my table in my bed-room at 3 P.M. I am. I take three doses of medicine as a tonic daily, Elixir of Iron, Quinine and Strychnia 1/6 [1/60] of a grain. And so the days go on. I went down stairs this morning to see the heavily loaded table, covered with Christmas presents from (my money) and Susan’s judgment for James Cunningham’s family & Tildy and Cunningham’s married daughter Mattie Hiltner.

Christmas dinner. My son-in-law Jawood Lukens sent up a fine turkey and today Susan had it cooked for dinner. I had some of it cut up finely by Susan and with other things made me an excellent dinner.

9 P.M. Things went on in the usual way this P.M. Since supper I have slept some.

December 26: Thursday.

9 P.M. Slept pretty well at intervals of one and half hour. Palp. has not disturbed me during this week, and yet I am very uncomfortable from the great weakness and the great irregularity of the heart's action, its frequent dropping of a beat.

10 o'clock have sent Postal and a copy of my Photo to Dr. Sarah Dolley.

11 o'clock. "Kate Sullivan, Dau. Susan's Girl has just been in to see me. How kind they all seem to see me.

2 P.M. Have had a nap since dinner. Susan has taken up \$100 paid me by Dr. E. M. Corson, to deposit in First National.

4 P.M. Dr. John J. Shrawder called a few minutes ago to see me and to get one of my large "Photos," I call them. They are what the Biographical Publishing Co. of Phila. prepared for me.

I was right glad to see him, poor fellow. A talented man, could have had a fine "Practice" at Ambler, but he is one of these ingenious men whose mind is all the time on inventions, so his life is a kind of cranky one.

December 27: Friday.

4 P.M. Elizabeth Corson, wife of George, and her mother-in-law & George's mother, Mrs. Emily Corson, widow of Elias H., have just left the room after a very brief visit to me.

I have slept finely since the Laxol did its duty at one P.M. What an admirable purgative!! And now just as I am about to close the book after writing this, Dr. Ellwood, my nephew has walked in to see me. What a fine looking man he is, and he is as fine & good as he looks to be.

December 28: Saturday.

Slept wonderfully well last night, yet rose as weak as usual. Have written several little notes, &c. Dr. Highley here at eleven o'clock. Weather still unusually pleasant and warm for the time of year.

The mail brings me "Woman's Progress," The Intelligencer, &c., &c., but I can scarcely read either of them but a couple of pages before I must drop them.

My niece Helen Hovenden has sued the Penna R. Road Company for \$500 damages for the death of Thomas. I scarcely know whether to approve it or not. But it was shameful a thing to have such a man killed just because they would not have a watchman there when requested by an appeal from many citizens, that they ought to be compelled to pay heavy damages. A good woman lost a kind husband, two children a kind father, the State one of its citizens worthy of the highest honor and Artists grandest representative.

December 29: Sunday.

3 P.M. Just through my afternoon work. I was very comfortable in bed and taking about ½ oz. of Maltine after every meal and one dose between dinner & supper to see if I can't keep off the palpitation. It was frequent yesterday and last night.

December 30: Monday.

The rest of Sunday I have forgotten all about. Sent James to Norristown to see if John J. C. has paid my taxes (County) for Plymouth and Whitemarsh, thus to save the 5 per cent and avoid an extra fee for failing to pay before January 1st, 1896.

The day is dull and foggy outside and the gloom and darkness of night, therefore, enshrouding us early. Am all the time a little apprehensive of the coming of palp., but it has staid off pretty well for a day or two.

My heart-beats, when I am still, 56 times per minute, about as usual for the last few months, but my respirations are about 24 even when quite still or in bed.

December 31: Tuesday.

9 A.M. Spent a tolerably good night. Am weak as ever this morning but am up and writing here. It is cold & windy outside. I must drag on through the day, I suppose, to meat another night, and so it goes.

11:30 A.M. Oh! how lovely the scene out of doors with the lawn lit up with the brightest sun-light, and the trees swaying wildy and flecking the ground with their moving shadows.

I have just finished congratulations to my friend Prof. Alfred Stillé on the coming year, which to him I have wished to be to him a year of Comfort.

2 ½ P.M. Have had a good nap and now, here I am in the arm chair near to the North window. So it goes, from bed to the chair, breakfast, dinner, supper, after each the bed, a daily round; a somewhat hurried breathing, weakness to the extreme.

Nearly every bill against me before today has been discharged. Tomorrow, Oh yes! Tomorrow, if it should ever come to me, will be the first day of another year, 1896. What will happen during that term cannot be told by any one now. Yet we can say with much assurance of its truthfulness that many of us will be removed by Death from this earthly scene.

1896

January 1: Wednesday.

Palp. struck me in bed at 3:30 this morning. Received by mornings' mail kind letters from

- 1) Mrs. Hettie Yerkes Hallowell, wife of Caleb Hallowell; also from
- 2) the widow of my (deceased) friend Colonel Theodore Bean;
- 3) also from my niece Dr. Sarah Read Adamson Dolley of Rochester, New York;
- 4) My nieces Mrs. Helen Corson, daughter of my brother George Corson (dec'd) and widow of the celebrated artist Thomas Hovenden (so recently killed in an instant on the "cut off" Rail Road & Germantown Turnpike Road) & her sister Miss Ida Corson.

5 ½ P.M. I have been on the bed for half hour after having read the Intelligencer & Journal, and am now waiting for supper. Helen and Ida have been here to see us.

January 2: Thursday.

8 ½ A.M. I had palp 8 hours last night. It ceased at 4 A.M. this morning, and now I am feeling pretty well, having had breakfast, but fear the return of palp.

- 1) No special news from the outside world today;
- 2) No visitors except Dr. Percie Corson;
- 3) Walked out to the barn this P.M. Got there and back pretty well, but so exhausted that I had to seek the lounge at once.

January 3: Friday.

9 P.M. Slept well. No palp., but weak. Oh! how weak.

- 1) Dr. Whitcomb came to see me;
- 2) Mrs. Dr. Graham, my gd. niece, gd. dau. of brother Alan W. Corson also came at 10 A.M.;
- 3) Rec'd. \$84 Int. for City Bonds, for half year;
- 4) [from] Montgomery Insurance Trust & Safe Deposit Co. a dividend of 3 per cent, \$7:50.

January 4: Saturday.

- 1) Pretty fair night. Weather 14° F. and very windy;
- 2) Pleasant letter from Prof. Alfred Stillé;
- 3) Am very weak this morning;
- 4) 4 P.M. Am very weak. Medicine has not acted so well as I hoped it would;
- 5) Dr. Percie Corson has been here to see me. He had just come from a visit to Dr Oscar Leedom. Poor Dr. L. is a victim to Morph.;
- 6) Therm. at 4° at day break;
- 7) Powell Childs visited me this afternoon. He is a splendid man and very fine looking, so large, and so grand a head.

I am sitting up later than usual so as to escape palp., if it will and in doing that. It is now almost 9 P.M.

January 5: Sunday.

Therm. 8° F. Slept pretty well last night, but rose weak and miserable from so great weakness. It is now 10 o'clock A.M. and after getting dressed with the aid of daughter Tacie, or Tacy, have read nearly all of the "Friends Intelligencer." There is in it a sensible article from my friend Isaac Roberts of Conshohocken, cashier of the Tradesmen's Bank.

11: 30 A.M. Palp. has just struck me as I lay quietly in bed and have been an hour or more. 2 P.M Tacie has just come in with my dinner, and though the palp. is strong before me, I go to it. O how it beats and how helpless I am but still, I went to dinner. Must I? Thought I could scarcely stay there, so fiercely did the palp. continue. Yet I kept on & then stag[g]ered to bed. I had been there but a few minutes when it stopped palpitating. So often does getting up and doing something that really seems to utterly exhaust me take it off, when had I lain still it would probably have gone on for hours, that I make these efforts and risks.

Tacie has just brot in some dainty cream, product from Mrs. Elizabeth Corson, wife of George's my nephew.

4 P.M. Have written two letters since last writing & sent two mimigraphs [sic]. I have by strong effort kept myself up to write them as I do not want to be in bed

altogether, all the time. Will now write to Joseph if I can do it before bed-time.

January 6: Monday.

Slept well last night at intervals of 1 ½ hour. Therm. 4° F. No letters of importance. Sent three letters to others and a picture or two.

Susan came to see me at 9 A.M. Intended to take ice, but the ponds are all so low that the water is too muddy.

Bertha expects to come to Sp. Mill tomorrow, leave Broad St. Station at 10:14.

January 7: Tuesday.

Noon. Have been weak as usual. Dr. Percy Corson has been here. Bertha has just arrived to take the place of Tacie who will leave for home directly. Have just had dinner. My appetite is excellent. Ada has come to see me.

Letters from Mrs. Mary Lovell & from ----- . As yesterday, so things go on today, but I had palp. twice before bed-time.

January 8: Wednesday.

Palp. twice after I went to bed, but they went off in less time than an hour each. It is now eleven o'clock, but as I am feeling weaker than usual, I have hardly been up at all and I write this propped up in bed.

Have sent to Norristown for medicine and a number of things by James. 2 P.M. With some support from James, I walked out to the barn today, about as well as I did yesterday, to see the sparrows, fowls, geese & ducks eat, also to see the pigs & cows and almost above all, the horses, good, old faithful ones.

It is difficult for the sparrows to get food enough in severe, freezing days, so we feed them, and how quick they respond to the call.

4 P.M. Dr. Thomas J. Morton has just left me after a visit of a few minutes. He gave me, too, The History of the Pennsylvania Hospital written & published by himself, a very valuable work on which he was engaged 10 years in preparing.

Dr. Percy Corson came at 4:30 & staid a few minutes.

January 9: Thursday.

Palp. struck me at 10:30 A.M., cont'd. till three P.M. Dr. Lewis W. Read and Dr. Percy Corson both called during this time. So I had it on me four hours. When it went off I was lying awake waiting for Tildy or Bertha to bring me ice-water to try once more. When the palp. goes off I am not so relieved, so like I used to be in such events. I am still left in a weak state that if I walk, my breathing becomes very hurried and I feel that I must drop into a chair. After a quarter of an hour I am better, can go about better, but not I used to snoring.[sic]

5 P.M. Have read several chapters of Thomas A Kempis' [Thomas à Kempis] "Imitation of Christ." Many good sayings in it.

Took Laxol at breakfast time, purged pretty well soon afterward, so soon that it could not have been the work of the Laxol. Palp. has not returned while writing this.

January 10: Friday.

12:20 P.M. Have lain in bed ever since I had breakfast and been pretty

comfortable. John J. Corson spent about 20 minutes with me this forenoon. Have read a Phila. paper, "The Recorder," not much but gossip, no State or National news, like what is to be found in the Press. Susan Lukens came, staid half hour or so.

Feel rather stronger than usual and craving for dinner. Is'nt it strange what a good appetite I have? I have heard from the barn. Chickens, ducks, geese, pigs, cows horses, little sparrows all have been cared for, James says. It just occurs to me to write to Doctor Jane K. Garver, woman, & send picture.

January 11: Saturday.

11 o'clock. Fine day. No palp. last night. Slept well. Postal from Dr. James Tyson, Phila. Have been in the [bed] until half hour ago. Dr. Percy Corson has been here. Isaac Roberts of Spring Mill came at 3 P.M., staid twenty minutes nearly.

It is now about four o'clock. Just after dinner I had J. Cunningham to go with me to the barn to see the living stock there and the sparrows. All in good order. Then had the carriage gotten ready and he took me nearly half a mile in a walk of the old Gray, as we faced the sun and it seemed so warm and inviting. But as we returned, we came rapidly so as to be shook up a little.

January 12: Sunday.

Rather poor night. Palp. several hours. O! what an annoyance it is!! At 10 o'clock this morning Isaac Roberts of Conshohocken, cashier of the Tradesmen's Bank came to see me. He is a wonderfully fine man, so considered even in the present enlightened age of the world with its free intercourse which prevails among the people.

O! how I hope the palp. will not come again for a few days.

12 noon. Half hour ago Edgar Carter spent about ten minutes with me. A fine genteel appearing young man. I await with some impatience for my dinner as I do not have palp. and fear it may come. Then it will not be so pleasant to eat. I have had a good nap and am feeling somewhat hungry.

January 13: Monday.

Slept very well. Yesterday afternoon James Yocom came to see us all, and in the evening J. Cunningham took him to Spring Mill on his way home. He is as cleanly looking a man as I have ever seen, and a careful business man. He has a fine house now on Broad St., which he built. He also built largely to his Foundry and purchased lots on 2nd & 3rd Sts. so as to have a good entrance to his works. All of this is his, not a cent does he owe on it. He is a good son-in-law, and has a fine wife & good children.

Dr. Highley was here at 11 A.M., staid half an hour. A promising young physician, grand-son of brother Charles Corson.

Have sent James Sr. to Norristown for food and medicine.

Dr. Lewis W. Read has sent me a great lot of food & vegetables, Rarities. So I am well supplied. I am much stronger than I was weeks ago.

4 ½ P.M. Dr. Percy has been here nearly half an hour. He will be quite successful as a physician I believe from present indications.

I have not read much today.

January 14: Tuesday.

Took Laxol before breakfast. At two P.M. it had not operated so had Dr. P. Corson to give an enemata at 2 ½, but just before he did it, palp. struck me and lasted a few minutes ago. It is now 3 ½ P.M. It is now off.

January 15: Wednesday.

Eleven o'clock and I just out of bed from a good sleep, having slept well all night and just got awake, being struck with palp. a few minutes after getting awake at 8:30. I ate breakfast with palpitation thumping away, and almost at the risk of my life it seemed to me, so utterly weak and helpless the palp. rendered me. I could not stand without support and the pulsations of the heart at the rate of 150 per minute being heard by me in every part of the body. But after eating and with the help of Bertha, I got to bed and though the palp. did not cease till just now. I slept a good deal of the time. O! what a comfort when a few minutes after awaking the heart's rapid beating ceased.

From the P. office the man brot me three beautiful letters from my nephew Charles Highley, Willis Roberts and brother Elihu in response to the Photos I sent them. [Sent] letter & photo to Wm. McDermott.

Had palp. after dinner until nearly 4 P.M. Isaac Styer & wife here to see me. Dr. Ellwood, my nephew, [paid] a visit. [Am] very weak today. Bertha has just left me for home, 5 P.M., and Frannie Day has taken her place to stay a week.

Beautiful day. Many of the Farmers have to haul water for household purposes, as well as for the stock. It is fearfully dry, has been for many weeks. Cold & dry is the saying now when persons meet. I went, by aid of the man to the barn this P.M.

January 17: Friday.

At 9 ½ P.M. of yesterday I went to bed feeling very well. At ½ past 9, palp. struck me and I had it the whole night and till 8 ½ this morning, just as I was seated to take breakfast. O, it was a long wearisome night, save that I slept some time. I have a notion that I am eating too much or not right kind of food. I will begin today to eat less & to not take any meat.

4 P.M. Mrs. Hovenden, my niece Helen, a short visit, Ida Corson, her sister, daughter of my brother Geo. Corson, also came. Mr. Wm. McDermott made a brief visit. He is wonderfully pleased and grateful that I sent him my picture and a short letter. "Never in all his life did he ever once [receive] such evidences of respect and kind feeling for himself," he said. He was greatly moved by them. Dr. Wm. McKinsey also came and had a short interview with me. I have been in bed most of the day.

January 18: Saturday.

9 P.M. Had pretty good night. Slept well. Up at 8 this morning. Bright, dry morning. Several visitors, Richard R. Corson & wife and Dr. Ellwood & others. Was down stairs a short time today. Still dry & cold.

Got a letter & paper (photo) ready to send to Dr. Loch, as he is called, not a medical doctor, a Literary one, L.L.D.

January 19: Sunday.

Though I slept well and took a good breakfast, I staid in bed till eleven o'clock

and was pretty comfortable. Tacie came at 11 to see me. I then got up and had a talk with her and staid up till after dinner.

Tacie went home at 4 P.M. What a bright, smart woman she is, a fine talker too. I have been napping it occasionally today, between naps getting up and walking about the room. I have not taken Dr. Read's today, nor any Maltine today, believing that they do not relieve the tendency to palpitation, but am taking Aromatic Spirits of Ammonia as a stimulant. Half a teaspoonful of the Ammonia to a tumbler full of water is as strong as I can drink it. That I take in about three drinks. Even though so weak, it is so sharp on my throat that I have to have some jelly or syrup to take after it to allay the burning. I have only been using it two days, and thus far I have not had palp. I do hope it will do well as a stimulant. I am convinced the others were not useful.

Lawyer Geo. N. Corson, my nephew, once a bright member of the Norristown Bar but with only a low place in the ranks of Lawyers there now, because of the rum-drinking, came to see me today. What a bright man and orator he was! And now not respected and seldom employed.

Ground covered with snow. Cont'd. in bed till eleven o'clock, save while at breakfast. Dr. Percy came to see me.

January 20: Monday.

Got along as usual since last writing with no palp. [till] this morning at 4 o'clock. That lasted me most uncomfortably till 8. I had gotten up to eat breakfast with it still upon me. It was with difficulty even with Frannie's help to reach the little table, and then I could not hold up my head so as to eat anything, and so tried to get to the bed again. It seemed as though I could not reach it and fell exhausted on the side of the bed. Then as often before the palp. gave way and I recovered,

January 21: Tuesday.

12 noon. Have been in bed almost all day, thus far, lying there, weak as I can be to live it seems to me, but no palp. Have just had dinner.

4:30 P.M. Had my dinner before one P.M., then went to bed and fell asleep quietly and did not awake at all until about five minutes ago.

5 P.M. Susan here. She read me her redaced [redacted] sketch of the life of Theodore Search, grandson of my Uncle Richard Corson, Father's brother, prepared for the "Corson Book, History of the "Corson Family," which was started by brother Alan, merely speaks of the first & second generation of the family in the United States.

Nothing unusual. Several visitors. Complimentary letter from John Loch.

I feel that I am weakening fast. I can walk but a few yards when, even [when] the palp. is not on me, without much exhaustion. How lovely and mild the day appears to me and yet I can't get out to enjoy it. Can sleep and eat well, but Oh! how weak.

January 22: Wednesday.

I try to sit up out of bed, but it does not seem to rest me. Have written three brief letters this morning with Frannie Yocom's aid in enveloping, &c., &c.

4 P.M. Have had an afternoon nap. Have written to Dr. Percy to come before bed-time to give me 1/8 gr. morph. hypodermically, because of pain in right chest.

Dr. Ellwood & Dr. Percy here near night. Percy gave me the 1/8 gr. as spoken of. Just as I wrote the above line, palp. struck me at 3 ½ o'clock.

6 P.M. Palp. has been at its work ever since last writing and I in bed waiting as patiently as I can. An hour ago I felt that the final charge was coming on me rapidly and that I likely would not live through the whole night. Frannie & self thought of sending for Tacie but did not and though it is still on me, I feel somewhat changed & better.

January 23: Thursday.

Took Laxol. Had taken it less than an hour when the bowels were copiously moved. The med. of course had not then acted. Twice before the same thing occurred. It was I suppose ready to come.

Had palps. off and on nearly all day. Expected a very restless, wakeful, suffering night, yet how great was my surprise to have a most comfortable one, no palp. till 6 A.M.

January 24: Friday.

Had a pleasant night. Now 11 ½ have just gotten up, but had breakfast at 7 ½. No letters today thus far.

6 P.M. Have slept nearly all the afternoon to 5 P.M. Have just gotten up out of a strong sleep. I have been greatly engaged the last two hours, reading & writing, especially the latter. The darkness is closing around me, and I must close the book.

January 25: Saturday.

3 P.M. I slept profoundly last night from eleven to 6 this morning, then awoke with palp. upon me and I seemed to be ready to suffocate. Oh! how fearfully I was oppressed and worried for about 20 minutes. Then the palp. went off and I slowly recovered my usual state. Oh! how I regretted that I was not carried away from this world briskly.

4 P.M. Sitting in my favorite arm chair writing this (up stairs). Ada sitting near me. My feeling now is that, if the palp. stays away, I shall probably sleep well tonight and be comfortable to a great degree. What I dread now is that my sleep may be so deep & long that I shall awake with palp. on me as on last night. How distressing that would be. Frannie has sent for Tacie and Susan to come here this evening so that we may counsel with each other about my case.

January 26: Sunday.

Have not moved from the bed scarcely and yet at 3:30 was struck by the palp. So as I have it on me, I will write in my Diary. I was afraid to get up to do it while the palp. was not on me for fear it would then happen and I would charge it on not lying still.

John J. Corson was here today to tell me how my monied matters are. It is a mild, soft day, has an attractive look out on the lawn, to a person like myself not able to go out.

4 P.M. [Palp.] just went off but in the shortest time, only two or three minutes, on again.

Sent my picture to Dr. of ----- and Dr. J. K. Weaver, Norristown.

January 27: Monday

All this day the heart has been alternating a few minutes of regular beating with a few minutes of palp., a wretched position to be in as I really have no entire freedom from it at all. First in this position I think the best, next the very opposite, and so it goes night and day without my being able to get relief but for a few minutes in any position.

January 28: Tuesday.

2 P.M. All last night and all day till now, I have thus suffered. O! what a poor prospect of relief is before me, and yet am I to go on suffering thus. It seems so. I see no prospect of relief until I am worn out. And out of doors the day is as beautiful an one as I have ever seen.

January 29: Wednesday.

Have been in bed almost all the time since breakfast. Sometimes palp. on me, often not. Weak and uncomfortable only that I have been asleep most of the time.

Oh! now I desire to get out of doors. It is now ½ of one and my dinner over, but I feel that I cannot possibly get out of the room. What a condition to be in!

5 P.M. Kate Leary, Susan's girl who made me grape juice drink, came to see me, also Geo. Corson.

January 30: Thursday.

I have been sleeping and worrying with palpitation ever since noon. Oh! how weak and distressed whenever the spells of palp. are on me, which are every few minutes. Even when off, the relief is barely perceptible.

Isaac Roberts of Spring Mill and his wife called to see me. But just then I was under an unusually bad spell. But they reported that Wm. P. Ely had broken his leg just above & just below his knee, that John Tracey died this forenoon, that John Righter is sick. So, I am not the only sufferer.

Have had no letters per mail today. When is my distressed condition to come to an end? The duskiess of evening is closing around me. My hired man J. Cunningham took me sealed in Mary's wheeled chair round the office to the barn yard and back again to the dining room piazza, to get some fresh air without my making any muscular exertion, just after dinner. But it gave me no relief from the usual heart disturbance. It is a great labor to write this, and I must again go to the bed. Susan and Ada are near to me to aid me, should I totter over. Oh! how I fear the long night that is now face to face with me. "Oh! Death! The old man's dearest friend, the kindest and the best. Welcome the hour my aged limbs are laid with thee at rest."

January 31: Friday.

But little change in me from yesterday. All the oppression, occasional palpitations, &c. I have been helped out of bed by my faithful dau. Susan, and helped to my arm chair, where with my book on my knees, I am making this record. Dr. Percie Corson is here and just ready to take Ada to the Cars for Edward's boarding house near to the school in Germantown.

The Death of Rev'd. Wm. Furnace [Furness], in his 94th year, the oldest, most prominent minister of the Lutheran Church [Unitarian Church] in the United States. He

died yesterday, though only a week ago he was given a reception and was apparently in good health.

Oh! so weak, feel that I can scarcely write another line.

Postscript:

Indeed, Dr. Corson did not write another line. For well over a month he knew his biological clock was winding down rapidly and near the very end considered Death as the “dearest friend, the kindest and the best.” For months he described in detail his growing weakness and was convinced that his life would end like that of his brother William. He recorded for us how he felt and dealt with the approaching end of his life. Hiram Corson, M.D., expired at 5 o’clock in the morning on March 4, 1896, leaving behind a most impressive record of contributions to society and to the medical profession.

From his first entry March 31, 1827, to his last entry January 31, 1896, the doctor provides us with an invaluable record of nineteenth century America and preserves much information for historians and genealogists. It gives an inside into medicine and the medical profession like no other publication. From it, doctors and the public can appreciate what medicine was and can be, especially organized medicine in Pennsylvania.

I know of no better or detailed description of the symptomatology of regular narrow QRS tachycardia involving AV node and accessory pathways and its response to various modes of vagovagal stimulation. Modern methods of cardioversion were not yet available, nor were electrocardiographs in clinical use. He achieved conversion most consistently by drinking “iced-water” which produced an exaggerated vagal response. While he had several episodes with true signs of Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome, this occurred only during a relatively short period of time. His heart rate following attacks of palpitations returned and remained at a low rate of 56 to about 60 beats per minute.

It is curious that Dr. Corson never mentioned that his son, Dr. Joseph K. Corson (1836 – 1913), was decorated for bravery at Bristoe Station, Virginia, October 14, 1863. No doubt it would have been a great source of joy to him had he lived to learn that the Congressional Medal of Honor was re-issued to his son on May 13, 1899. Both the original and the re-issued citations are treasured possessions of the recipients grandson, Joseph K Corson, M.D.

As Hiram Corson approached the end of his life, he was blessed by having devoted children who stayed with him and aided him. He was buried in old Laurel Hill Cemetery, between Ridge Avenue and the Drive, along with his wife and two of his children.

L.A.M.

ENDNOTES

ⁱ Huxham's Tincture is a mixture of *Chincona succirubra* (red bark), orange peel, *serpentaria* (Virginia snake-root), Spanish saffron, cochineal (dried *Coccus cacti* insects) and brandy, which is allowed to digest for four days before it is expressed and filtered.

ⁱⁱ A method of treating a patient when his fever reached 102° F. The patient was immersed in a bath at the temperature of 68° F. for 5 to 15 minutes. "Friction" of the surface was thought to be essential. After the bath the patient was put back to bed and dried between sheets

ⁱⁱⁱ F. H. Murdoch of Bradford, McKean County.

^{iv} Court plaster was prepared by two thin applications on silk, one of a mixture of isinglass and water, the other a mixture of isinglass and alcohol with a small amount of glycerin. The reverse side was painted with tincture of benzoin. Court plaster adhered firmly to the skin.

^v Celeste refers to a solution of morphine sulphate. In one of his entries, Dr. Corson indicated that he calls the solution of morph. "Celestial."

^{vi} Tincture Valerian is the extract of one or more species of valerian, most commonly the extract of the roots of *Valerian officinalis*. It was used to reduce anxiety and restlessness and promote natural sleep.

^{vii} Aconitum, from the root of *Aconitum napellus*, in a solution of alcohol and water. Though very toxic, it was considered "highly beneficial in fevers, acute throat affections, and inflammation of the respiratory organs."

^{viii} According to the history of Whitemarsh, Montgomery County in *Montgomery County: The Second Hundred Years*, 1983, vol. 1, p. 793, Lancasterville, named for the Lancaster family who owned large farms in the area, was sometimes referred to as "Wrangle-town" because of the "fights at the local tavern on payday among the lime-burners and quarrymen."

^{ix} An agent obtained from the rhizome and rootlets of the plant *Veratri viridis*, the American hellebore.

^x An aromatic stimulant and carminative derived from the flowers of *Lavandula vera*.

^{xi} Green-goods men refers to men involved in confidence gaming.

^{xii} Maltine referred to various proprietary preparations of malted wheat or barley.

^{xiii} The wine which contained Coca derived from the leaves of *Erythroxyl coca* containing the alkaloid Cocain.

^{xiv} Tongaline was a proprietary medicine for rheumatoid arthritis and gout primarily and was available in tonic and pill forms.

^{xv} Matthew Stanley Quay, Pennsylvania's United States Senator.

^{xvi} Proprietary food for infants containing water, a small amount of fat, grape and cane sugars, starch, albuminoids and a trace of ash.

^{xvii} A proprietary preparation containing hypophosphate of iron, quinine, strychnine, calcium, manganese and potassium.